

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





1.9
EC 752F
TVS

**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Economic
Research
Service

TVS-222

October 1981

Vegetable

OUTLOOK & SITUATION

MAR 2 1983

In This Issue

	Page
Vegetable Price Outlook	5
Fresh Vegetables	6
Processed Vegetables	9
Potatoes	12
Sweetpotatoes	13
Mushrooms	15
Dry Edible Beans	17
Dry Edible Peas	17
List of Tables	27
Special Article:	
Fall Potatoes: Production, Consumption, Marketing Patterns, Prices and Spreads	28

Approved by
The World Agricultural
Outlook Board
and Summary released
October 30, 1981

Principal contributor:
Jules V. Powell
(202)-447-7290

Statistical Assistant:
Barbara Johnson

The *Vegetable Situation* is published in January, April, July and October. Subscription for a single issue is available at no charge upon request to principal contributor.

National Economics Division
Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Summary

Smaller Vegetable Supplies Point to Higher Prices

Smaller supplies of both fresh and processed vegetables this fall point to higher prices for producers and consumers. Supplies of fresh vegetables during fourth-quarter 1981 are approximately 6 percent smaller than a year earlier, and processors used about 2 percent less. Grower prices for fresh market vegetables will advance seasonally this fall and average moderately higher than a year ago. During the last quarter of 1981 and the first half of 1982, average retail prices for most processed vegetables also will rise somewhat from a year earlier, reflecting tighter supplies and higher processing and marketing costs.

During third-quarter 1981, prices fell from spring levels but remained above a year ago. The index of farm prices for fresh market vegetables stood at 122 (1977=100), up 16 percent over last year. The September index of retail prices for fresh vegetables, at 269, (1967=100) also was 16 percent higher than in 1980. Similarly, the index of wholesale prices for 10 leading

canned vegetables registered 240.7 in October, up 21 percent from a year earlier.

October 1 acreage available for production of 14 major fresh-market vegetables is estimated to be 5 percent less than last year. Based on average yields for the past 3 years, output is projected at 35.1 million cwt, 6 percent less than a year earlier.

This fall, all leading fresh vegetable crops will be small, except broccoli, which has 5 percent larger acreage, and cabbage, which has the same acreage as in 1980. Among the processing vegetables, contracted acreage for snap beans, beets, green peas, winter and spring spinach, and tomatoes declined. Only canned green lima beans and sweet corn, and frozen broccoli are expected to increase.

Wholesale prices for canned vegetables continued upward throughout the 1980/81 marketing season. Prices jumped in April, when smaller stocks and prospects for reduced packs became apparent. In October, wholesale prices of 10 leading canned vegetables averaged 21 percent higher than a year ago. Prices will escalate further this season, but increases will be more moderate.

Frozen vegetable supplies will also be down this season, and prices will be moderately higher. Prices for frozen vegetables will be relatively higher than those for canned because of additional marketing costs.

With a larger crop of fall potatoes in prospect—8 percent more than a year earlier but still 3 percent below 1979—grower prices will decline from last year's alltime highs. However, on October 1, stocks of frozen potatoes were 14 percent smaller than a year ago, and stocks of dehydrated potatoes were also low. This will boost grower prices. Prices will probably average \$4.75 to \$5.25 per cwt, down from the \$6.36 for the 1980 fall crop. The generally good quality reported in all areas and strong processor demand, will make it a good year for potato growers.

U.S. consumption of potatoes in 1980 averaged 116.2 pounds per person, as the use of fresh potatoes rebounded to 54.2 pounds and the use of processed declined to 62. Per capita consumption of frozen potatoes dipped to 33.8 pounds, down from 35.4 (revised) a year earlier. Con-

sumption of chips and shoestrings also eased down to 16.8 pounds per person.

Domestic mushroom production reached a new high of nearly 471 million pounds (213,441 metric tons) during 1980/81, continuing an unbroken upward trend evident since mushroom estimates began in 1966. Fresh market sales, 267 million pounds, were up 4 percent from a year earlier and accounted for 57 percent of total U.S. production.

The 1981 crop of dry beans is estimated at a record 31 million cwt (1.4 million metric tons), 19 percent more than last year's alltime high. An 18-percent increase in acreage and yields of 1,426 pounds an acre—4 more than in 1980—caused the expanded output. After the record-large crop became apparent, grower prices dropped to \$26.70 in August, from \$35.40 the preceding month. However, prices have risen since August, when heavy rains reduced the crop estimates. Prices will remain near year-earlier levels because much of the 1981 crop has already been sold.

Vegetable Situation

VEGETABLE PRICE OUTLOOK

The index of grower prices for fresh and processed vegetables during the first half of the year averaged about 10 percent higher than a year ago. Increased prices during the first half of 1981 reflected periods of short supplies of winter and spring vegetables resulting from smaller acreages, a January freeze in Florida, and reduced imports from Mexico. However, prices declined in July and August, as supplies returned to normal. In September, the index of farm prices for vegetables stood at 118 (1967=100), down 3.3 percent from August and only 2.6 percent above a year ago. Lower prices for onions, carrots, and tomatoes contributed most to the price decrease. Higher prices for watermelons, cucumbers, and sweet corn were partially offsetting. Vegetable prices are likely to increase seasonally during the fourth quarter of 1981 and the first quarter of 1982, as harvests are completed in the Northern States and vegetable production returns to more distant, warmer climates.

Generally larger supplies also dropped retail prices. The September 1981 Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Consumer Price Index for fresh vegetables stood at 268.6, down 5.9 percent from August but still 5.8 percent higher than a year ago. Higher marketing costs, which increased about 10 percent during the past year, were partially responsible for the higher retail prices. Increased prices for potatoes and lettuce—up 5.1 and 10.4 percent respectively—also contributed to the higher index. Prices for tomatoes were down 9.5 percent from a year ago, but those for other fresh vegetables rose 8.5 percent.

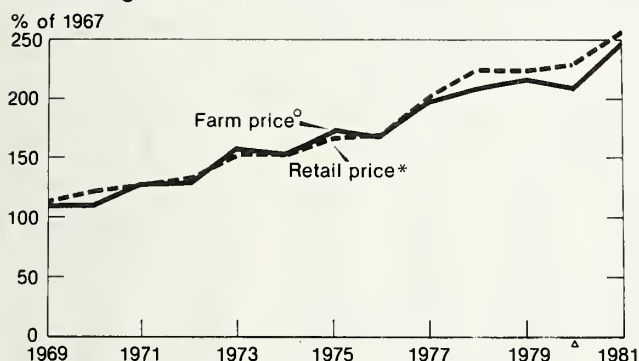
Reflecting smaller supplies and higher processing and marketing costs, retail prices for processed vegetables in September were 13.2 percent higher than a year ago. Frozen vegetable prices were 13.4 percent higher, while prices for major canned vegetables were up an average of 12.7 percent. Despite current relatively high prices for processed vegetables, production of processing vegetables is expected to decline again this year. Thus, with smaller supplies and with increased production and marketing costs, prices for major processed vegetables are expected to average higher during 1981/82 than during 1980/81.

**Quarterly index of farm prices
for fresh vegetables¹**

Year	1977=100)				
	1st.	2nd	3rd.	4th	Annual
1972	68	64	62	67	65
1973	81	98	74	64	79
1974	73	83	73	81	77
1975	85	93	83	90	88
1976	93	80	86	92	88
1977	128	93	84	96	100
1978	106	129	94	94	106
1979	134	105	95	101	109
1980	100	116	105	119	110
1981	161	128	122		

¹Excludes potatoes.

Fresh Vegetable Price Indexes



*First 9 months. *Derived from Bureau of Labor Statistics (excluding potatoes).
°Commercial vegetables for fresh market, ERS-USDA.

Quarterly retail prices for fresh vegetables¹

Year	1977=100)				
	1st.	2nd	3rd.	4th	Annual
1972	137	135	128	133	133
1973	151	167	151	137	152
1974	150	160	152	151	153
1975	168	169	165	160	166
1976	170	168	165	179	170
1977	221	216	178	184	200
1978	212	247	209	204	218
1979	254	224	211	226	229
1980	220	250	231	253	239
1981	287	275	258		

¹Excludes potatoes.

USDA estimate derived from Consumer Price Index.

FRESH VEGETABLES

The acreage planted to 14 fresh market vegetables in major producing States since July 1 is estimated at 218,850 (88,580 hectares), 5 percent less than on October 1, 1980. Broccoli, which increased 5 percent, and cabbage, which was unchanged from last year, were the only crops not showing declines. Among the major crops, lettuce will have a 4-percent drop in acreage, and tomatoes are predicted to have a 20-percent decline.

Production of the 14 principal vegetables is expected to dip to 35.1 million cwt, down from 37.6 million a year ago. Only broccoli is projected to have increased production. It will be up 9 percent from a year ago. All of the remaining vegetables show decreases ranging from 1 percent for cucumbers to 30 percent for spinach.

Acreage for cantaloups and honeydews for September-November harvest is estimated at 12,650, up 12 percent from the area on October 1, 1980. Nearly all of U.S. fall supplies of cantaloup and honeydew melons come from California and Arizona. Total melon production from the area growing on October 1 is expected to be 18 million cwt, up 27 percent from 14 million cwt a year ago. Production of cantaloups is projected to increase 13 percent and honeydews will expand 51 percent over 1980.

Exports

Fresh vegetable exports have never been large, but in recent years growers have shown increased interest in foreign markets. Canada will continue to be our major export market, but Japan also purchases some vegetables. The current strength of the dollar compared with the Canadian dollar and the yen, however, will not favor increases in foreign purchases this fall and winter.

The major exports among fresh vegetables are lettuce, tomatoes, celery, onions, and carrots. Considerable quantities of melons are shipped to Canada. In calendar year 1980, exports of fresh vegetables and melons totaled 1.4 billion pounds, about the same as 1979 but 11 percent

below the 1978 record. Lettuce made up nearly 20 percent of the total; tomatoes, about 19 percent; and all melons combined accounted for 10 percent.

Imports

Nearly all of our fresh vegetable imports come from Mexico. However, some winter vegetables are obtained from the Caribbean and a few vegetables and potatoes are imported from Canada. January-June imports of fresh vegetables totaled 793 million pounds, down sharply from the 1.4 billion imported last year. Melon imports totaled 263 million pounds, down from 422 million in 1980. Imports will probably increase this winter because of high prices for fresh vegetables in the United States, and an increase in planted acreage in Mexico.

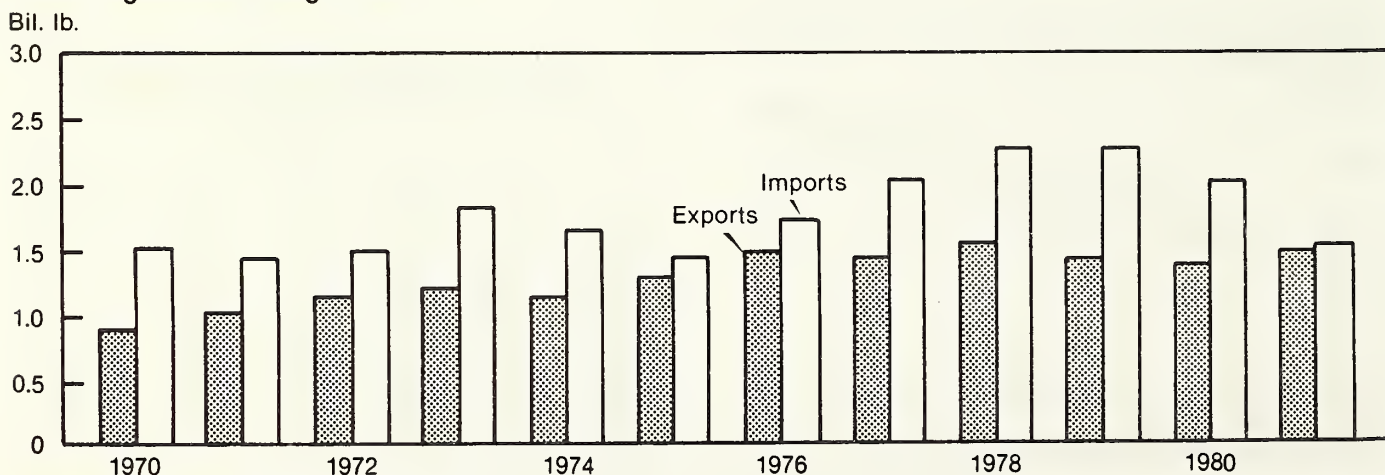
Fresh vegetable supplies¹

Supply	1980	1981
	1,000 cwt.	
U.S. winter production-major States	36,689	—
U.S. spring production-major States	61,573	² 80,442
U.S. spring onions	5,875	5,372
Imports (Jan.-June)	18,644	10,553
Total six months supply	122,781	96,367
U.S. summer production-major States	³ 66,613	NA
U.S. fall production-major States	³ 46,969	NA
U.S. summer onions ⁴	21,601	22,486
Imports (July-Dec.)	3,198	NA
Annual supply	259,898	NA

¹Includes melons. ²Includes winter and spring. ³Based on historical average yields. ⁴Excludes California.

NA—Not Available.

Fresh Vegetables-Foreign Trade



Fresh vegetables includes melons. 1981 estimated.

USDA

Neg. ERS 317-81 (10)

Prospects for Leading Items

Onions

The final forecast for production of late-crop storage onions is 19.3 million cwt, (87,600 metric tons), an increase of 5 percent from 1980. Harvested area is estimated at 53,170 acres, up 5 percent from 1980 and 1 percent greater than in 1979. Average yields, at 363 cwt per acre, are unchanged from last year. In Idaho and eastern Oregon, the leading producing area, production is down 6 percent, and New York, the second leading producer, shows an 11-percent decrease. Most of the other areas remain about the same or show slight increases.

The New York onion crop is in fine condition, but yields are off because of dry, windy weather earlier in the season. Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado, and Idaho are reporting high-quality crops.

Even with larger supplies, prices for yellow onions (2 inches and larger) are running higher than a year earlier. At Orange County, New York, shipping point mid-October prices per 50-pound sack were close to \$5.50. This compares with \$4.05 a year earlier. Yellow Spanish types, 3 inches and larger, f.o.b. Idaho and Oregon, averaged slightly higher than a year ago, down from \$5.67 per sack in 1980. Prices for yellow hybrid Colorado onions, 3 inches and larger, at \$6.50 to \$7.00 a sack, were about the same as a year ago. Export sales to Japan from the Pacific northwest and Colorado are helping to maintain these price levels.

For 1982, planting intentions for early onions in Texas are estimated at 19,800 acres (8,010 hectares) 7 percent above 1981 and 4 percent above 1980. In the Rio Grande Valley, planting conditions have been excellent, with cool temperatures and adequate moisture. Planting was in full swing in mid-October. In the San Antonio/Winter Garden and Laredo areas, conditions were also good, and planting is on schedule.

Cabbage

Prospective planted acreage of cabbage, at 12,700 (5,140 hectares), is the same as in October a year ago. In New Jersey, quality is excellent, and a moderate-to-good volume is expected to continue into November.

In Florida, transplanting and seeding began in early September, but progress was slow until near the end of the month. Heavy rains caused some problems in scattered areas. First cuttings will begin in November. Land preparation and planting were completed on schedule in Texas. California's cabbage supplies will come primarily from the south and central coast areas. Growing conditions have been satisfactory and desert cabbage will be available in December.

Prices for cabbage, f.o.b. shipping points in western and central New York in early October averaged \$3.00 per 1-3/4-bushel carton, compared with \$3.40 a year ago. However, wholesale prices for New Jersey cabbage were about \$1.50 higher, than New York's but about the same as a year ago.

This year's production from the October acreage is expected to total about 2.1 million cwt, 3 percent less

than a year ago. With only slightly less production, prices will be about the same as in 1980 and will depend largely on the quantity and quality of the cabbage offered for sale in any particular area.

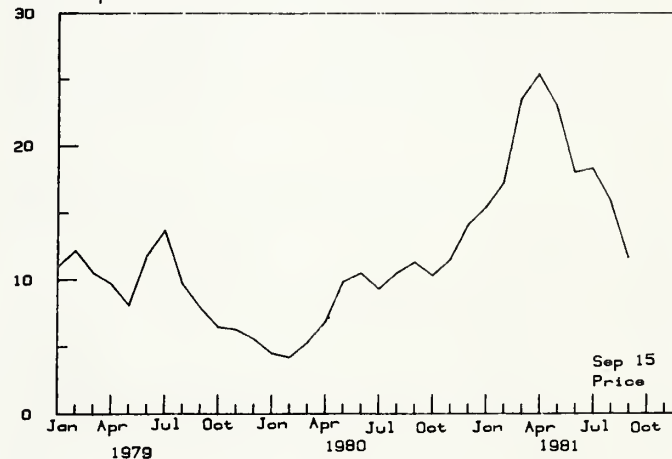
Celery

Planted acreage of celery for harvest after October 1 is estimated at 8,500 (3,440 hectares), 4 percent less than a year ago. Production is expected to total 4.2 million cwt, down from 4.5 million last year.

In Florida, transplanting of celery is gaining momentum after being delayed by rains earlier in the season. However, transplanting is behind schedule in the Everglades. The crop is making good progress in the central area, and the first harvest is expected in early November.

Supplies from California's central coast will be at peak levels during November, and harvest will continue into December. The transplanting of California's south-coast celery began in August and will continue into April. Har-

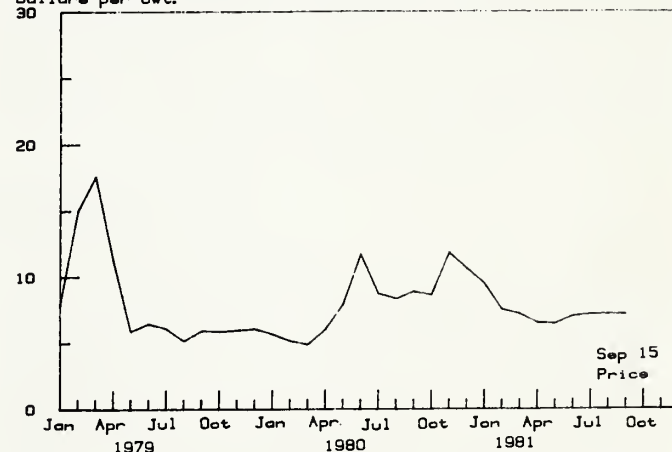
Onions: U.S. Grower Prices
Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 1057-81 (10)

Cabbage: U.S. Grower Prices
Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 1055-81 (10)

vest will start about November 1, with most of the acreage in Ventura county.

Shipping point prices of celery have been above those of a year earlier. During early October, celery sold for \$6.95 a crate of 2 to 3 dozen stalks, f.o.b. Central Michigan, up from \$5.75 a year ago. Prices, f.o.b. Salinas-Watsonville, California, averaged \$4.85 a crate, compared with \$3.70 in 1980. With a smaller crop in prospect, prices are expected to exceed last year's levels throughout the fall and winter marketing season.

Carrots

The acreage planted to carrots since July 1 for harvest after October 1 is placed at 14,900 (6,030 hectares), 9 percent below a year earlier. Production is expected to total about 3.4 million cwt, down 4 percent from the 3.6 million produced a year earlier.

Heat and dry conditions in Texas hurt early planted carrots on the High Plains, but rains in late August and September helped development in later planted fields. In

California, harvest is underway in the Kern District and continues active in the Salinas Valley.

Prices for carrots have been lower than a year ago. In early October, sacks of 48 1-pound film bags of Michigan carrots were priced at \$7.00 a sack, f.o.b. Michigan, compared with \$8.00 a year ago. Carrots from the Salinas-Watsonville area were priced at \$6.25, f.o.b., down from \$7.50, and Kern District carrots were priced at \$5.00, down from \$6.75 a year ago. Prices will escalate as the season progresses and will probably average near or slightly above year-earlier levels.

Sweet Corn

Most of the sweet corn during the fall quarter comes from the Florida Everglades, where 12,800 acres have been planted since July 1. An additional 1,100 acres have been planted in California since July 1. These acres in both States will be harvested during October-December. Florida's acreage is down 10 percent from a year earlier and California's is up 16 percent. The total is down 9 percent from 1980. Based on average yields, this year's fall crop of sweet corn is expected to total 908,000 cwt, down 11 percent from a year ago. With a smaller Florida crop, consumers in the East will find less sweet corn and higher prices in stores this fall. Western consumers will find ample supplies and perhaps slightly lower prices.

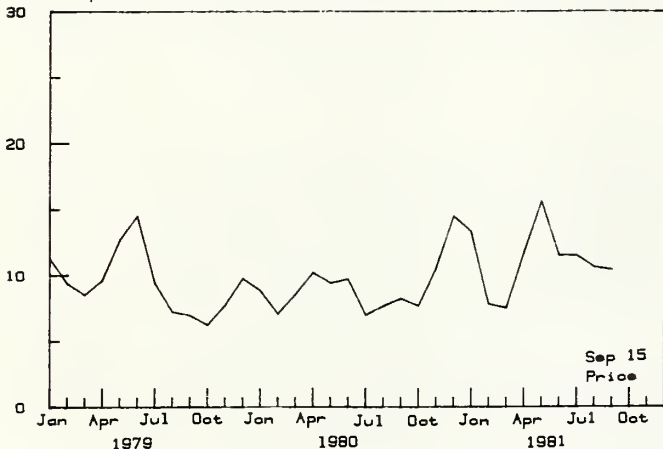
In Florida, sweet corn planting in the Everglades and on the East Coast has been active. Early plantings were damaged by excessive rain, but those areas have been replanted. The crop is later this year than last. Sweet corn acreage in California is in the south-coast counties, with a smaller area in the central coast. Harvest in both Florida and California was active in October and will continue through December.

Lettuce

With both California and Arizona indicating reductions in acreage planted to lettuce after October 1, the total is placed at 68,200 acres, (27,600 hectares), 4 percent less than in October 1980. With average yields, production

Celery: U. S. Grower Prices

Dollars per cwt.

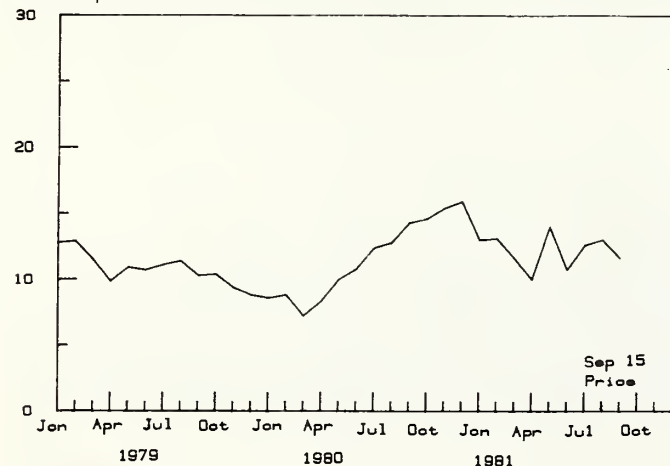


USOA

Neg. ERS 1056-81 (10)

Carrots: U. S. Grower Prices

Dollars per cwt.

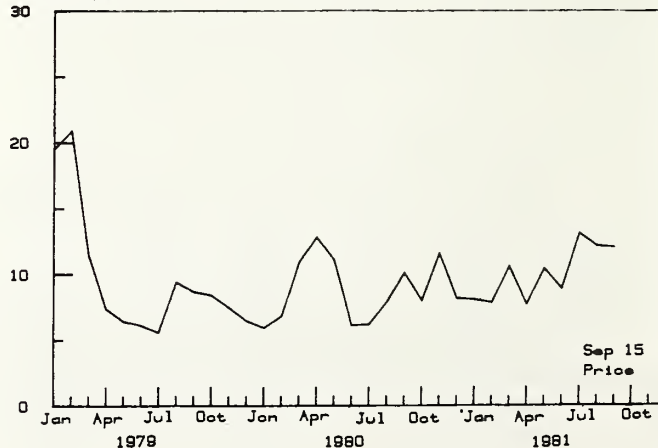


ERS

1058-81 (10)

Lettuce: U. S. Grower Prices

Dollars per cwt.



USOA

Neg. ERS 1059-81 (10)

from October acreage is estimated at 14.8 million cwt, about 5 percent less than a year ago.

New Jersey has had a good crop, and light supplies from late-planted acreage will continue through mid-November. Lettuce planting in Florida began in September. The first harvest was originally forecast for about November 1, but the season is late because of frequent rains. Lettuce in Arizona has made good progress under nearly ideal growing conditions. Supplies from the Yuma and Salt River Valley area came on the market in mid-October and will be available from November through May or early June of next year. The harvest in the Salinas-Watsonville and Santa Maria-Guadalupe areas of California was winding down by November 1 but some supplies will be available through early December. Harvest in the Blythe area began in early November.

Lettuce prices are extremely volatile and may vary widely from day to day, depending on supplies, quality, weather, labor availability, and transportation. After 2 years of generally low prices, lettuce growers reduced acreage this summer, and prices have been higher through the late summer and early fall. In early October, cartons of iceberg lettuce were priced at \$4.20, f.o.b. Santa Maria, California, compared with \$3.15 a year ago. Two weeks earlier, on September 19, Santa Maria lettuce was priced at \$6.13 a carton, compared with \$3.90 in September, 1980. With the moderately smaller crop in prospect, prices will remain fairly strong throughout this marketing season.

Tomatoes

U.S. tomato acreage planted on October 1 is estimated at 10,900 (4,410 hectares), down 20 percent from October 1980. Florida acreage is placed at 10,300, down 18 percent, and Texas' area is placed at 600 acres, down 40 percent from a year ago. With average yields this acreage will produce about 2.7 million cwt, 25 percent less than in 1980.

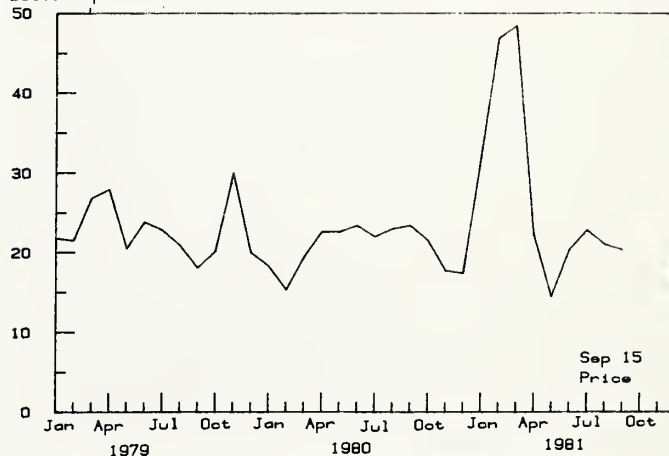
In Florida, the crop is in good to very good condition, except in the lower areas of Dade County, where moisture was excessive. Light harvest began in the Palmetto-Ruskin area in late October. However, overall, the tomato crop is 2 to 3 weeks behind a year ago. Hot, dry conditions in Texas slowed plantings and reduced acreage. However, later planted fields have developed well, and light supplies were marketed in October.

Prices for all tomatoes will rise seasonally through November and December. With a sharply smaller crop in Florida, prices will stay well above last year's levels. However, in early October, 2-layer flats of pink tomatoes (4 X 5 and 5 X 6's) were priced at \$4.28, compared with \$7.00 a year ago. Prices are expected to rise sharply after the local Eastern and Midwest production is off the market.

Other Fresh Vegetables

The estimated October 1 acreage of green beans is placed at 22,400 (9,070 hectares), 7 percent less than in 1980. With average yields, the crop will total about 673,000 cwt, 3 percent less than a year ago. Most of this production will come from Florida, with smaller quantities from Georgia, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina, and California. The acreage of eggplant planted after October 1 in Florida is placed at 850 (340 hectares), down 23 percent from a year ago. With normal yields, the crop will total 167,000 cwt, 22 percent less than in 1980. Acreage of escarole/endive, at 2,050, (830 hectares) is 13 percent less than in 1980. The crop, at 219,000 cwt, will be down 2 percent. Spinach acreage for harvest after October 1 was estimated at 2,800 (1,130 hectares), 22 percent below a year ago. With average yields, the crop will total 172,000 cwt, 30 percent less than in 1980.

Tomatoes: U. S. Grower Prices
Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 1060-81 (10)

PROCESSED VEGETABLES

The area contracted for production of seven major processing vegetables in 1981 is estimated at 1.2 million acres (500,720 hectares), down 2 percent from 1980. Raw tonnage production under contract is expected to approximate 9.4 million (8.5 million metric tons), about 4 percent less than a year ago. Production declines are expected for green snap beans, beets, green peas, winter and spring spinach, and tomatoes. Increases are forecast for green lima beans and sweet corn. Substantial decreases

in contracted tonnage of snap beans, down 16 percent; beets, 23 percent; green peas, 6 percent; and tomatoes, 10 percent highlight this season. Contracted acreage and production of cucumbers for pickles, and fall spinach will be reported in the *Crop Reporting Board's Vegetable* report on November 9.

The carryover of leading canned vegetables at the beginning of the pack year was down about 12 percent from a year ago. Stocks of the seven leading frozen vege-

tables were down more than two-fifths at the beginning of the pack year and on October 1, stocks of all frozen vegetables totaled 1.66 billion pounds, down 4 percent from 1980. The data on contracted acreage are not categorized for canning or freezing, but the current stock positions indicate both outlets will share in the small over-all decreases. Most of the decrease in canned tonnage will come from tomatoes, beets, and green peas. Although carryover stocks of canned tomatoes from the 1981 pack are not large, contracted acreage of processing tomatoes was down this year and the crop was reduced by poor growing conditions in California. With the packs of canned vegetables about the same as a year ago, and frozen packs expected to be only 1 percent larger, total supplies during 1981/82 are expected to be moderately smaller than the previous year. Canned supplies will be down about 2 percent, and frozen vegetables will likely drop 8 percent. Smaller supplies, combined with increased processing and marketing costs, will spur higher wholesale prices for both canned and frozen vegetables for the remainder of 1981 and through the first half of 1982.

Higher raw-product, processing, and marketing costs will boost both wholesale and retail prices. Some of these costs have risen substantially during the past year. For example, the index of packaging-material costs was 285.8 (1967=100) in August 1981, up 7.5 percent from August 1980. During a comparable period, the index of prices for fuel and power rose 19.9 percent to 685.8 (1967=100). Labor costs were up 11 percent in 1981, and the monthly index of transportation costs in August stood at 351.5 (1967=100), 18.7 percent above a year ago.

Most of the decrease in processing vegetable tonnage comes from California tomatoes, which do not compete directly with other fresh and processed vegetables. However, there are smaller crops of nearly all of the other processing vegetables, which are often substituted for each other, depending on relative prices. For example, the relatively large supplies of green beans this year may tend to dampen price rises for corn or peas.

The total supply (pack plus carryover) of canned vegetables for 1981/82 will be only slightly smaller than last season's reduced supplies. The slight drop results from a 12-percent smaller carryover of the major canned items, because the total packs averaged about the same as in 1980.

Reflecting continued inflationary pressures, wholesale prices of canned vegetables continued an upward trend

Canned vegetable supplies and disappearance¹

Year	Pack and carryover	Disappearance
<i>Million cases 24/303's</i>		
1977/78	390	337
1978/79	390	335
1979/80	417	349
1980/81	390	330
1981/82 ²	383	—

¹ 10 items combined which account for roughly 50-55 percent of raw product tonnage. ² Projected-based on Sept./Oct. SRS raw tonnage estimates.

throughout 1980/81. Prices for canned vegetables remained fairly steady at about 219 (1967=100) during December-March but jumped when the smaller stock position became apparent. In October, the index of prices for 10 leading vegetables stood at 240.7 (1967=100), up 21 percent from a year earlier. With smaller supplies, wholesale prices (particularly for canned tomatoes and tomato products) will probably edge higher through the remainder of this year and the first quarter of 1982.

With supplies of the seven major frozen vegetables down about 8 percent from a year ago, prices for most of these items will also be higher. Stocks of all frozen vegetables on October 1 stood at 1.66 billion pounds, 4 percent less than in 1980.

Prospects for Leading Items

Peas

The volume of peas available for canning and freezing this year was estimated at 451,360 tons, and the combined pack of canned and frozen peas was substantially smaller than a year ago. This marks the third straight year in which both canned and frozen packs were reduced. Total supplies of processed green peas will be tight throughout the marketing season, and prices will advance in the first half of 1982. Total supplies of canned green peas are estimated at 30 to 35 million cases (24-303 equivalent), barely above the annual volume consumed. Despite the expected smaller supplies, prices for canned green peas have been steady.

The 1981 pack of frozen green peas is estimated at slightly less than 300 million pounds, also the smallest pack in the past 3 years. Stocks on hand on September 1 totaled 336 million pounds, down 6 percent from a year

Frozen vegetables stocks, October 1

Commodity	1979	1980	1981
	<i>Mil. lbs</i>		
Lima beans	119.4	102.8	62.6
Snap beans	231.1	240.4	229.0
Sweet corn ¹	479.3	362.7	412.4
Green peas ²	389.9	328.2	293.1
Spinach	80.6	70.8	91.0
Broccoli	89.4	104.2	102.3
Carrots ²	79.8	81.3	47.8
All frozen (excluding potatoes)	1,951.7	1,733.8	1,658.8

¹ Sweet corn on-cob not converted to cut equivalent. ² Peas and carrots mixed not included.

Canned green peas: Supply and disappearance

	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82
<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>			
Carryover	1.6	6.2	6.2
Pack	36.5	30.1	27.3
Total supply	38.1	36.3	33.5
Disappearance	31.9	30.0	—

ago. Despite the smaller pack and lower supplies, prices were firm through September. Prices are expected to rise this winter, reflecting both the shorter supplies and higher marketing costs.

Lima Beans

Green lima bean tonnage contracted for canning and freezing is estimated at 67,750, 13 percent more than a year ago. Contracted tonnage is up in California and Delaware but lower in Maryland, Wisconsin, and other States.

Most of the lima bean tonnage in California will be frozen. Carryover stocks of both fordhook and baby lima beans were down sharply this year after 2 years of ample supplies. The smaller carryover, combined with a smaller pack, will yield total supplies only slightly larger than the U.S. annual consumption. Total supplies will be near 123 million pounds, about 11 percent smaller than a year ago. Tight supplies—particularly of the baby lima beans—will boost prices above a year earlier during the coming months.

The carryover of canned lima beans on August 1 was nearly 700,000 cases, up more than a sixth from the previous year. With both yields and acreage up this year, the total pack will rise moderately as will total supplies. Ample supplies will moderate any price increases caused by higher processing and marketing costs, and prices probably will remain at current levels throughout 1981/82.

Snap Beans

The estimated 1981 contracted tonnage of snap beans for canning and freezing, at 643,750 tons, is 1 percent smaller than a year earlier. The carryover of canned green beans, at 15.9 million cases (24-303's), however, is the largest in the past several years. The 1981 pack is expected to total about 60 million cases, bringing the total 1981/82 supply to about 76 million, the largest in years. With large supplies, wholesale prices for green beans are showing some weakness and will probably average about the same as a year ago throughout the fall and winter marketing season.

Stocks of frozen green beans totaled nearly 211 million pounds on September 1, substantially less than a year ago. With supplies of green beans expected to be down substantially from the large total of the past 2 years, prices will probably rise during 1981/82. In September, prices for regular and French-cut green beans averaged \$7.50 a case of 24 9-oz. cartons, compared with \$6.70 to \$6.80 a year ago. Institutional packs were priced at 47 cents a pound, f.o.b. West Coast, compared with 42 cents a year ago.

Canned snap beans: Supply and disappearance

	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82
<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>			
Carryover	9.8	9.6	4.7
Pack	60.0	50.6	—
Total supply	69.8	61.2	—
Disappearance	60.2	55.4	—

The 1981 pack of frozen green beans has been completed. The Pacific Northwest and California accounted for 54 percent of the total pack; the East and South, 36 percent; and the Midwest, 10 percent.

Sweet Corn

The 1981 output of sweet corn contracted for processing is estimated at 2.4 million tons (2.18 million metric tons), 12 percent larger than 1980's output produced under contract. All of the processing States except Idaho, Pennsylvania, and "Other" States reported expanded production. Increases in Washington and Oregon—the principal freezing States—were 26 and 21 percent, respectively.

With a very small carryover of canned corn but a fairly good pack, total supplies during 1981/82 will be about 2 percent larger than last year but 12 percent less than 1979/80. Larger supplies usually mean lower prices, but increased processing and marketing costs will probably keep prices near last year's levels and well above those in 1979/80. Prices should maintain total disappearance at the usual 55 million cases (24/303's), and next summer's carryout should be 5 to 7 million cases. Contracted acreage in 1982 will probably remain near the levels recorded this year.

The combined carryover of cut and on-cob frozen corn was less than half of 1980's and only about a third of 1979/80 ending stocks. However, October 1 stocks totaled 142 million pounds, 14 percent more than a year ago. Both the on-cob and cut corn shared in the larger packs. With a larger pack offsetting the low carryover stocks, prices for frozen corn are expected to be above year-earlier levels. In September, prices for institutional packs of 12 2-1/2-lb. cartons ranged from 46 to 47 cents a pound, f.o.b. the West Coast, compared with 37 cents a year ago.

Tomatoes

Processing-tomato production under contract in 1981 is estimated at 5.65 million tons (5.13 million metric tons), down 8 percent from 1980. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 245,390 (99,300 hectares), 5 percent below a year ago. Yields per acre, at 23.04 tons, are down 2 per-

Canned sweet corn: Supply and disappearance

	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82
<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>			
Carryover	9.8	9.6	4.7
Pack	60.0	50.6	—
Total supply	69.8	61.2	—
Disappearance	60.2	55.4	—

Canned tomatoes: Supply and disappearance

	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82
<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>			
Carryover	14.6	12.3	10.2
Pack	52.9	53.1	—
Total supply	67.5	65.4	—
Disappearance	55.2	55.2	—

cent from a year ago. This forecast is based on an October 1 survey in California and a September 1 survey in other States.

The growing season in New Jersey was drier than normal, and cool temperatures in August delayed ripening. Quality was good, but yields were down in Ohio because of dry weather in August. Michigan harvested a good crop, with normal yields.

California's crop got off to a fast start, with good stands and set. However, extremely hot weather in late June damaged the crop in the Sacramento and northern San Joaquin Valleys. Poor vine condition, varying ripening times, and small fruit reduced yields severely in some districts. Some central California fields showed yields below 10 tons an acre, but most were much better. Deliveries in August were far below any recent year. Harvest continued through mid-October. Deliveries to canners through October 17—which represents nearly the entire season—were estimated at 4.9 million tons, down from 5.8 million a year ago.

Light deliveries and a relatively small carryover from the 1980 crop portend tight supplies and higher prices for canned tomatoes and tomato products this marketing season. A number of canners raised prices as much as 25 to 30 percent, effective September 21. Wholesale prices for California Standard Grade peeled tomatoes were raised to \$11.80 a case (6/10's), up from \$9.25 a year ago and \$7.50 in August 1979.

This second year of smaller production will be beneficial to the entire California tomato industry. After several years of distress prices, the Tomato Growers' Association was able to negotiate a price of \$50 a ton, cash, and \$53 a ton, deferred payment, for this year's crop. With a prospect of a low carryover again next spring and strong processor demand, growers are looking forward to a stronger bargaining position than they have had in recent years.

Other Processed Vegetables

Contracted acreage for canning beets totaled 10,230 in 1981, and indicated production is 158,560 tons—both down 23 percent from a year ago. The small pack from this tonnage will be partially offset by the still-large carryover resulting from the 1980 crop. Total supplies this year are estimated at about 14 million cases (24/303's), down 21 percent from a year ago but still well above annual needs. Prices for canned beets will be above last year's depressed levels throughout the marketing season.

Frozen broccoli stocks on October 1 totaled 102.3 million pounds, 2 percent less than a year ago. With these supplies, prices for frozen broccoli will remain at year-

earlier levels, or slightly above, reflecting increased processing and marketing costs. Stocks of frozen cauliflower—a close substitute for broccoli—at 36.8 million pounds, were down 22 percent on October 1, but the processing season was just getting underway. Stocks of frozen brussel sprouts totaled 24.2 million pounds on October 1, 6 percent more than a year ago. Volume production was underway in October in California, where freezers were expecting to pack about the same amount as last year. Prices for nearly all frozen vegetables are expected to be moderately higher than a year ago, reflecting an overall smaller supply of about 8 percent and increased processing and marketing costs. However, a sluggish economy and a slower rate of consumption will moderate the price increases.

Potatoes

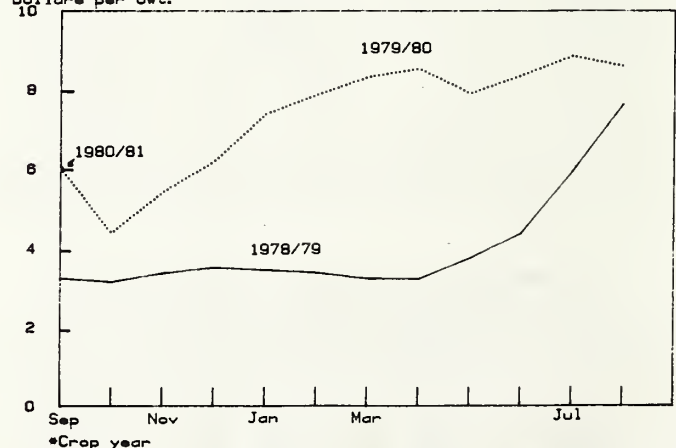
Marketing the 1980 Crop

The 1980 potato crop totaled 303 million cwt (13.7 million metric tons), 12 percent below 1979 and 17 percent less than the 1978 record. Harvested acreage was down about 9 percent from 1979, and average yields, at 262 cwt an acre, were down 3 percent from 1979's alltime high. As a result, the average price in 1980 rose to a record \$6.55 per cwt, up from \$3.43 a year earlier. The value of the Nation's potato crop was placed at \$1.98 billion also a record, and 69 percent higher than in 1979. This was the first increase in value of production in the past 5 years.

The quantity of potatoes sold from the 1980 crop totaled 273 million cwt, 11 percent less than a year earlier and down 16 cent from 1978. However, the value of sales was estimated at \$1.79 billion, compared with \$1.05 billion in 1979 and \$1.1 billion in 1978. The quantity sold for processing accounted for 50 percent of the total production. Fresh sales were 32 percent, and all other sales made up 8 percent of the total. Farm use, shrinkage, and loss accounted for the remaining 10 percent.

Despite the smaller 1980 crop and high prices, exports of fresh potatoes (mostly to Canada) increased 39 per-

Potatoes: U. S. Grower Prices*
Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 3073-81 (10)

Canned tomato juice: Supply and disappearance

	1979/80	1980/81	1981/82
<i>Mil. cases 24/303's</i>			
Carryover	6.2	6.4	3.0
Pack	31.5	27.6	—
Total supply	37.7	24.0	—
Disappearance	31.3	31.0	—

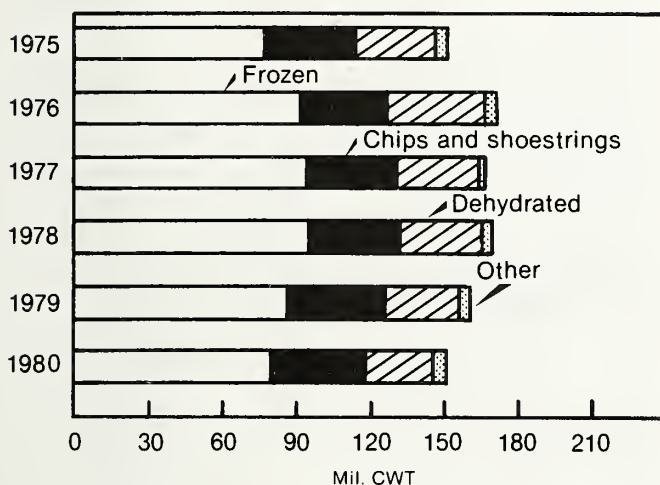
cent. However U.S. exports (October-August) of dehydrated potatoes declined 14 percent, and exports of potato flakes fell 40 percent in 1980/81. Exports of dehydrated potatoes during October 1-August 31 totaled 5.9 million cwt (fresh weight equivalent basis), down from 8.5 million a year earlier. Exports of frozen french fries, mostly to Japan, were running 21 percent larger than the previous season. Exports of frozen and dehydrated potatoes are expected to remain strong because of the growing institutional and fast food markets in other parts of the world.

1981 Potato Prospects

The 1981 fall crop is estimated at 287.1 million cwt, 8 percent larger than in 1980 but 2 percent smaller than in 1979. The area for harvest is estimated at 1.04 million acres, 6 percent more than a year ago but 3 percent less than in 1979. The USDA estimates yield will average 275 cwt an acre in 1981, but these are tentative. In the Pacific Northwest, where yields are usually the highest, industry sources are saying fields are spotty, and yields may average 50 cwt lower than a year ago.

In the seven Eastern States, fall production is forecast at 45.9 million cwt, up 9 percent from a year earlier. Yields, at 258 cwt an acre, are 22 cwt higher than in 1980, but the area for harvest is down slightly. As a

Processed Potato Use



USDA

Neg. ERS 2235-81 (10)

Potato exports¹

Crop year Oct.-Sept.	Dehy- drated	Fresh	Total	Percent of crop
—Mil. cwt.—				
1974/75	1.7	4.0	5.7	2%
1975/76	10.6	10.6	21.2	6%
1976/77	15.7	10.3	26.0	7%
1977/78	6.6	3.4	10.1	3%
1978/79	8.1	2.9	11.0	3%
1979/80	8.5	2.4	10.9	5%
1980/81 ²	5.9	2.3	8.2	4%

¹Fresh weight basis. ²Oct. thru Aug.

group, the seven States had the smallest acreage on record, but in Maine and New York acreage was about the same as a year ago. Cold, wet weather has delayed harvest in Maine, where only 40 percent of the crop had been harvested by October 1, about the same as a year ago. Quality was reported to be good, but yields were variable. Harvests in both upstate New York and Long Island have been completed. In Pennsylvania the harvest was 60 percent complete on October 1, compared with 75 percent a year ago.

In the eight Central States, production is estimated at 63.2 million cwt up 16 percent from 1980 but up only 1 percent from 1979. The estimated yield of 215 cwt is up 11 percent from last year, while harvested acreage is up 4 percent. Yields are up in all States, because growing weather has been good this year, except in the Red River Valley of North Dakota and Minnesota, where some frost damage occurred. A hard freeze in mid-October may have caused some abandoned acreage in the Red River Valley.

Production in the Western States, at 178 million cwt, is 5 percent above 1980 but 4 percent below 1979. The average yield of 311 cwt is 5 percent smaller than last year, but acreage for harvest, at 573, was 10 percent larger than in 1980. In Idaho, about 25 percent of the crop had been harvested by October 1, compared with 20 percent last year and an average of 14 percent. In Washington, harvest progressed at a normal pace but yields are not expected to approach last year's record.

Price Prospects

With the total fall crop up 8 percent from last year, grower prices will decline from last year's record highs and will probably average \$4.75 to \$5.25 per cwt, down from the U.S. average of \$6.36 for the 1980 fall crop. Prices will be buoyed somewhat by the generally good quality reported in many areas. In addition, processor demand will be strong. On October 1, stocks of frozen french fries totaled 446.1 million pounds, down 15 percent from a year ago. Stocks of dehydrated potatoes are also reported to be below normal. Thus, with strong demand in both the fresh and processing markets, this will be another good year for potato growers, even though prices are down from last year's record highs.

Per Capita Use Down

Consumption of potatoes in 1980 averaged 116.2 pounds per person, as the use of fresh potatoes rebounded to 54.2 pounds and processed potato declined to 62 pounds. In 1980, per capita use of dehydrated potatoes dropped to 9.3 pounds. Consumption of frozen potatoes dipped to 33.8 pounds per person, down from 35.4 pounds (revised) a year earlier. Consumption of chips and shoestrings also eased down to 16.8 pounds per person, but the use of canned potatoes remained at about 2.1 pounds.

Sweetpotatoes

The 1980 Crop

The 1980 sweetpotato crop totaled nearly 11 million cwt (497,000 metric tons), 18 percent below 1979 and the

smallest crop on record. The area harvested, at 102,200 acres (41,400 hectares), was down 11 percent from 1979, and was also a record low. The average yield of 107 cwt an acre was 10 cwt an acre below both 1979 and 1978. Because of the small crop and tight supplies, the value of production jumped 25 percent to \$148 million, as the U.S. average price reached a record high of \$13.60, per cwt compared with \$8.92 in 1979.

1981 Prospects

The 1981 sweetpotato crop is forecast at 12.5 million cwt, up 14 percent from 1980's small crop, but down 7 percent from 1979's large output. Harvested acreage is expected to total 108,800, up 6 percent from 1980 but 5 percent smaller than in 1979. Estimated yield, at 115

cwt an acre, is up 7 percent from 1980 but down 2 percent from 1979.

Prospects for the 1981 crop were lowered in late August and September. The North Carolina crop began the month of August in good condition but began to deteriorate later when excessive rains soaked the southeastern part of the State. In Texas, harvest began in late August, and the effects of excessive moisture early in the season immediately became apparent. Both the size and quality of the crop are below expectations, and the forecast was reduced 5 percent. California is expecting a good to excellent crop, 12 percent above a year ago. Louisiana's crop is down 4 percent. Yields were reduced because of inadequate rains in September.

With canners' carryover of canned sweetpotatoes virtually nonexistent, there will be strong demand for sweet-

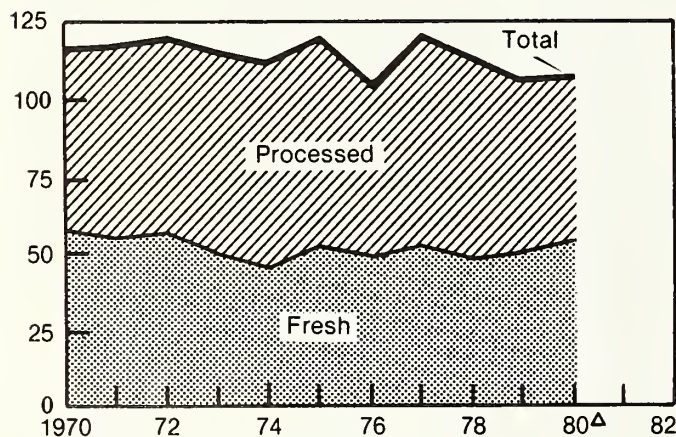
Production and per capita consumption of potatoes, 1965-80

Year	Production	Total fresh and processed	Fresh	Per capita consumption ¹				
				Processed ²				
				Total	Canned ³	Frozen	Chips and shoestrings	Dehydrated
	<i>Million cwt.</i>			<i>Pounds</i>				
1965	291.1	107.0	68.2	38.8	1.7	14.3	15.8	7.0
1966	307.2	116.8	72.4	44.4	1.7	17.3	16.7	8.7
1967	305.8	108.0	62.0	46.0	1.7	19.0	16.9	8.4
1968	295.4	115.2	65.9	49.3	1.9	21.2	17.1	9.1
1969	321.6	116.9	61.7	55.2	2.0	24.6	17.7	10.9
1970	325.7	117.4	58.2	57.2	2.0	27.7	17.7	11.8
1971	319.3	118.4	56.7	61.7	2.2	30.1	17.3	12.1
1972	296.4	119.2	57.0	62.2	2.1	30.8	17.0	12.3
1973	300.0	115.9	51.3	64.6	2.3	32.9	16.6	12.8
1974	342.4	113.3	47.9	65.4	2.3	32.7	16.0	14.4
1975	322.0	120.3	53.9	66.4	2.0	34.3	15.7	14.4
1976	357.7	114.4	50.1	64.3	1.9	36.4	16.0	10.0
1977	355.3	119.9	53.6	66.3	2.2	36.5	16.5	11.1
1978	366.3	119.0	49.7	69.3	2.1	38.8	17.1	11.3
1979	342.5	115.6	51.5	64.1	2.1	35.4	17.1	9.5
1980 ⁴	302.9	116.2	54.2	62.0	2.1	33.8	16.8	9.3

¹Revised 1974-79. ²Fresh-weight basis. ³Includes potatoes canned in soups, stews, and other combinations. ⁴Preliminary.

Per Capita Consumption of Potatoes

Pounds



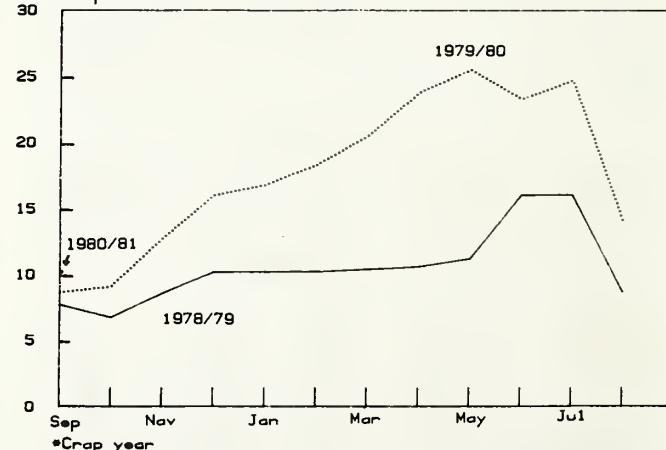
Δ Preliminary.

USDA

Neg. ERS 67-81 (10)

Sweetpotatoes: U. S. Grower Prices*

Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 3074-81 (10)

potatoes for processing. So far, grower prices in the processing market have been higher than a year ago. Canned stocks totaled 3.6 million cases (24/303's) on April 1, 1981, down 64 percent from a year earlier. Because of the small supplies and only a moderately larger crop, canners have been paying North Carolina growers \$4.75 per 100 pounds delivered, up slightly from last year, when the crop was small but stocks were large.

Prices Decline

Grower prices for fresh market sweetpotatoes remained relatively high through July but edged downward in August, when early sweetpotatoes came on the market. In mid-October, quotations for 50-pound cartons of U.S. No. 1 Porto Rico sweetpotatoes, f.o.b. Louisiana shipping points, averaged \$10.00 a carton, compared with \$8.50 a year earlier. Prices usually advance seasonally, but coming off of this summer's highs, prices will probably remain at current levels or slightly below through much of the marketing season.

Mushrooms

Production Up

Domestic mushroom production reached a new high of nearly 471 million pounds (213,000 metric tons) during 1980/81. This was fractionally higher than in 1979/80 and 4 percent more than output in 1978/79. This continued the upward trend evident since mushroom estimates began in 1966. Pennsylvania, the leading State, with 50 percent of the 1980/81 crop, produced 237 million pounds, 11 percent more than the previous season. Eastern States accounted for 62 percent of total U.S. production; Central States, 13 percent; and Western States, 25 percent.

Pack canned sweetpotatoes

Season	Million cases 24/303's
1973/74	11.4
1974/75	12.8
1975/76	7.7
1976/77	8.0
1977/78	7.2
1978/79	9.4
1979/80	7.2
1980/81	9.4

Mushrooms: Production, use, and value

Season	Output	Processing use	Fresh market	Farm value
		Million pounds		
1973/74	279	177	102	123.4
1974/75	299	173	126	147.2
1975/76	310	168	142	191.1
1976/77	347	196	151	255.7
1977/78	399	208	191	307.6
1978/79	454	224	230	361.8
1979/80	470	214	256	368.6
1980/81	471	204	267	350.7

The U.S. average yield of 3.35 pounds a square foot was up 7 percent from the record yields a year earlier. These higher yields are the result of new production technologies and increased efficiencies that have been introduced in recent years.

Fresh market sales of mushrooms, at 267 million pounds, were up 4 percent from the 1979/80, and accounted for 57 percent of total U.S. production. The average price received by growers for mushrooms sold for fresh market was 91.8 cents a pound, a decrease of 4 cents from the previous season.

While fresh market sales continued the long-term upward trend, processor use dropped to 203 million pounds, 5 percent less than the previous season, and processings' share of the market dropped to 43 percent. The average price to growers for processing mushrooms fall to 51.8 cents a pound, a decline of nearly 6 cents a pound from a year earlier.

Grower's used approximately 140 million square feet (13.0 million square meters) of bed and tray area to produce the 1980/81 crop, down 7 percent from the previous season. They plan to increase the area to 142 million (13.2 million square meters) in 1981/82, an increase of 1 percent. If growers' intentions are carried out, the first filling will be virtually the same as last season; the second filling will be up 1 percent; and additional fillings will be about 3 percent larger than a year ago.

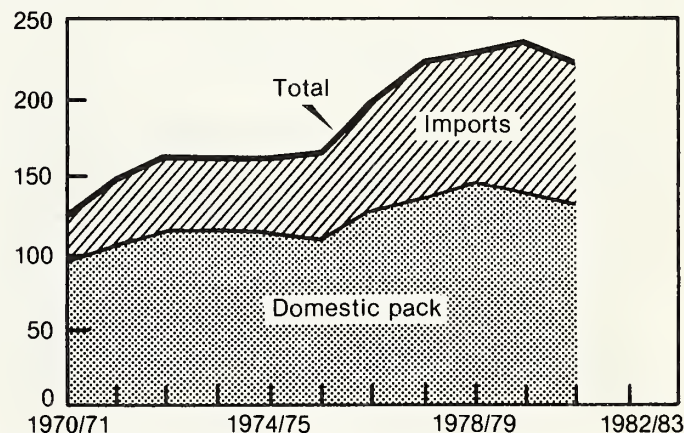
Foreign Trade

In August, the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) completed its 14th quarterly report on processed mushrooms. It covered April-June of 1980 and the marketing years 1978/79, 1979/80, and 1980/81. Major conclusions of the report follow.

In the second quarter of 1980/81, domestic production of canned mushrooms, sales of domestic processors, and imports all decreased from year-earlier levels to 30, 21.4, and 25.3 million pounds, respectively. The decline in sales of domestic canned mushrooms reflects a significant increase in prices for canned and greater demand for fresh mushrooms. The reduction in imports reflects

Processed Mushroom Supplies*

Mil. lb.



*Product weight.

USDA

Neg. ERS 2562-81 (10)

the temporary rate-of-duty increase imposed on prepared or preserved mushrooms, effective on November 1, 1980. Increased tariffs were imposed by the President under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974, following the ITC's determination that imports of prepared or preserved mushrooms were a substantial cause of serious injury, or threat thereof, to the domestic industry. Decline's in domestic producers' sales and imports were followed by an apparent 22-percent drop in consumption during April-June 1981.

Taiwan had been the principal supplier of imported mushrooms in recent years, but during the second quarter of 1981, the People's Republic of China (China) and Hong Kong shared first place. The other major supplier is the Republic of Korea. Between April-June of 1980 and 1981, Taiwan's share of imports dropped from 48 to 24 percent, while China's jumped from 8 to 27 percent, and Hong Kong's rose from 20 to 27 percent. China was granted most-favored-nation status in February 1980,

which partially explains the doubling of imports from that country.

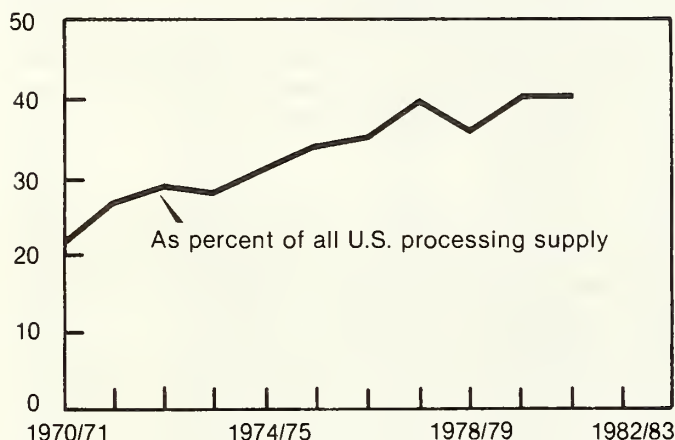
Production, imports, and apparent consumption of processed mushrooms all declined during 1980/81. The ratio of imports to consumption declined from 52 to 45 percent. Sales of canned mushrooms increased 4 percent to 99.5 million pounds during 1980/81. Sales of frozen mushrooms reached 17.5 million pounds, an increase of 59 percent from a year earlier.

Per Capita Consumption

Per capita use of all mushrooms declined slightly to 2.8 pounds in 1980/81 (raw equivalent basis), down from 2.9 pounds a year earlier, the first break in the upward trend since these computations began in 1966. Of the total consumption, an estimated 1 pound was fresh and 1.8 pounds were processed. Of the processed mushrooms, about 45 percent were imported.

Canned Mushroom Imports*

Percent



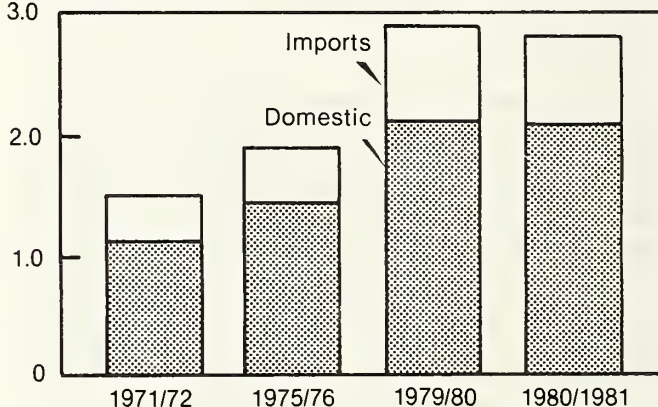
*Product weight.

USDA

Neg. ERS 2564-81 (10)

Mushroom Disappearance Per Capita* - United States

Pounds



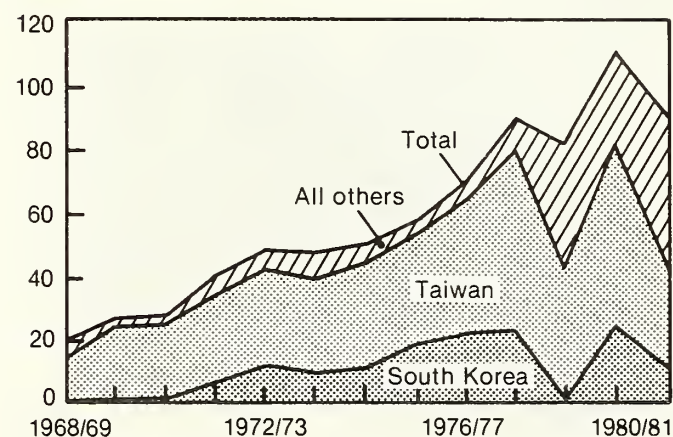
*Fresh weight basis.

USDA

Neg. ERS 2563-81 (10)

Canned Mushroom Imports to USA*

Mil. lb.



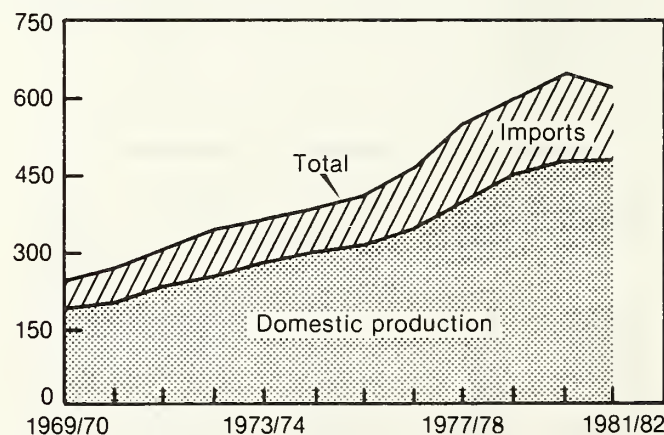
*Product weight basis.

USDA

Neg. ERS 2560-81 (10)

Total Mushroom Supplies*

Mil. lb.



*Fresh equivalent basis.

USDA

Neg. ERS 2561-81 (10)

Prospects for the mushroom industry during 1981/82 point to increased prices and lower imports, because of continued higher tariffs for processed mushrooms. Prices for fresh mushrooms will do well to maintain 1980/81 levels. With a generally sluggish economy and with mushrooms classified as a gourmet item, some further decline in per capita consumption could occur during 1981/82.

Dry Edible Beans

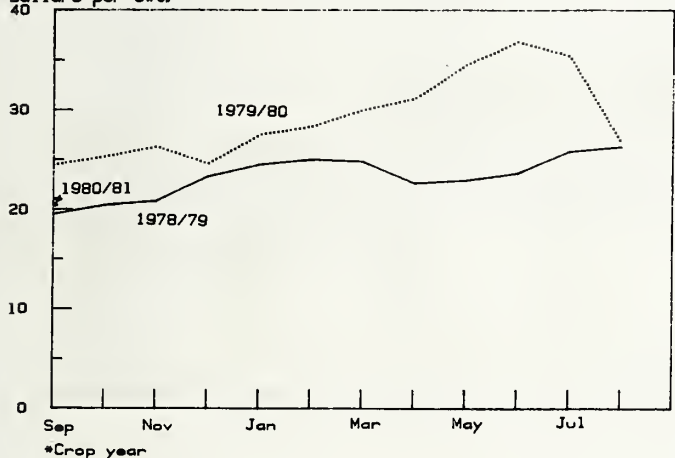
Dry edible bean production in 1981 is estimated at a record 31 million cwt (1.4 million metric tons), 19 percent more than last year's alltime high. The estimated acreage for harvest is 2.17 million, 18 percent above a year ago. The average yield this year is estimated at 1,426 pounds an acre, 4 pounds larger than in 1980.

Harvest began about mid-August in California, Idaho, and Washington. By the first of September, the harvest had started in other States but was running somewhat later than normal.

Heavy rains in Michigan halted harvest in its early stages and caused a yield reduction of 100 pounds an acre from earlier forecasts. Cool, wet weather in Minnesota also reduced yields in that State. Harvest in North Dakota was also later than normal. Hot, dry weather in Idaho and Washington produced some light pods that reduced yields. Harvest in California's San Joaquin Valley was active in September. Dry beans were in good condition in Colorado and Wyoming, but harvest was behind schedule.

Average prices received by growers increased each month during 1981 and reached their peak in June at \$36.80 per cwt, compared with \$23.60 a year earlier. The industry anticipated the forthcoming record crop by dropping prices to \$35.40 in July and to \$26.70 in August. Grower prices rose again in October after the excessive rains in Michigan. They are expected to remain between \$30 and \$35 this fall, because prices will be buoyed by deliveries of sales made from the 1981 crop.

Dry Beans: U.S. Grower Prices*
Dollars per cwt.



USDA

Neg. ERS 3075-81 (10)

Among the major classes, dealer prices for Michigan pea beans reached record a high of \$50.75 per cwt in late May, but have declined since. In mid-September, dealer prices averaged \$30 per cwt but rebounded to \$38 to \$41 an October 20, after Michigan received its heavy rains. This was above last year's \$27.50 and substantially above 1979's \$19.75. Great Northern bean prices displayed a similar pattern, but the high price in June was \$40.25, dropping to \$32 in mid-October.

The glamour bean of the 1980/81 season was the baby lima. Average dealer prices for baby limas rose steadily through early 1981 and reached \$50 a cwt in March. Prices remained at this level through the early summer and finally dropped below \$50 in early July. In mid-September, they stood at \$30.50 per cwt. In response to last year's high prices, growers increased acreage, and a larger crop is expected this fall. Prices will probably return to year-ago levels of about \$25 per cwt.

Dealer prices for standard lima beans ran contrary to prices for nearly all other dry beans. Because of large supplies, prices for standard dry lima beans were below last year's levels throughout 1981 and, in mid-September, stood at \$40.50, compared with \$48.75 a year ago. In response to the large supplies and low prices, growers have sharply reduced the planted acreage of standard dry lima beans this year. Prices will probably return to year-ago levels this winter.

Pinto beans have been a star performer in the export market, and with strong demand, dealer prices climbed to \$45 a cwt in late May. Prices dropped sharply in July and August, when the large 1981 crop became apparent. In mid-September prices for dry pinto beans averaged \$22 per cwt, compared with \$33.75 a year ago and \$25 in 1979. If Mexico fulfills its plans and becomes self-sufficient in dry bean production in 1982, dealer prices could drop below \$20 per cwt during 1981/82.

Exports Up

Exports of dry edible beans during September 1980-August 1981 were 744,539 metric tons, 45 percent above a year earlier. Of the white classes, exports of Navy beans decreased 22 percent, and Great Northerns increased 18 percent. Exports of Pinto beans jumped 218 percent from a year ago.

Dry Edible Peas

Production of dry edible peas in 1981 is expected to total 2.24 million cwt, down a third from last year but 10 percent more than in 1979. The acreage for harvest is estimated at 112,000 acres (45,300 hectares), down 17 percent from 1980. Average yields for the two-State area of Washington and Idaho are expected to be about 2,000 pounds an acre, down 433 from last year's record 2,433.

Idaho's dry pea harvest was more than 90 percent complete by mid-August. Dry weather during harvest contributed to a clean, high quality crop. Quality was also good in Washington, and the harvest was completed in September.

Table 1—Harvested acreage and production of commercial vegetables for processing

Commodity	Harvested			Production			
	1979	1980 ¹	For harvest 1981 ¹	1979	1980 ¹	Indicated 1981 ¹	1981 as percentage of 1980
	1,000 acres			1,000 tons			Percent
Beans, lima	65.4	49.7	49.3	89.2	59.9	67.8	113
Beans, snap	285.4	228.9	211.6	769.1	648.3	643.8	99
Beets	17.4	13.3	10.7	249.7	205.4	158.6	77
Corn, sweet	417.6	376.7	401.8	2,463.9	2,138.9	2,399.7	112
Peas, green	392.3	321.1	302.1	613.4	479.5	451.4	94
Spinach (winter and spring)	18.1	19.1	16.9	135.7	145.7	126.6	87
Tomatoes	312.0	257.3	245.4	7,329.5	6,143.3	5,653.9	92
Total ²	1,508.2	1,266.0	1,237.3	11,650.5	9,821.0	9,501.8	97
Cabbage for kraut	9.8	8.6	NA	237.8	200.6	NA	NA
Cucumber for pickles ³	131.7	103.1	NA	669.0	540.8	NA	NA
Spinach (fall)	2.7	2.5	NA	18.7	18.5	NA	NA
Total 9 vegetables ²	1,652.5	1,380.3	NA	12,576.0	10,580.9	NA	NA

¹Contract. ²May not add to total due to rounding. ³Includes spring, summer, and fall. NA—Not Available.

Table 2—Fall potatoes: Production by areas, United States

Year	7 Eastern States	8 Central States	9 Western States ¹	Fall total ²
Million cwt.				
1974	60	66	163	289
1975	48	55	175	278
1976	51	58	199	308
1977	50	69	189	308
1978	47	71	207	325
1979	49	62	186	297
1980	42	55	170	266
1981 ³	46	63	178	287

¹Nine states beginning 1974. ²May not add to total due to rounding.

³Indicated as of October 1.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 3—Sweetpotatoes: Production by areas, United States

Area	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980 ¹	1981 ²
1,000 cwt.							
Central Atlantic ³	1,523	1,340	1,125	1,056	1,035	713	838
Lower Atlantic ⁴	5,030	5,250	5,024	5,751	5,774	4,943	5,572
Central ⁵	5,316	5,505	4,566	4,916	4,929	3,785	4,372
California	1,022	1,178	1,170	1,392	1,632	1,512	1,691
Total	12,891	13,273	11,885	13,115	13,370	10,953	12,473

¹Preliminary. ²Indicated. ³New Jersey, Maryland and Virginia. ⁴North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ⁵Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 4—Dry edible beans: Production by areas, United States¹

Year	Michigan	New York	Northwest ²	Southwest ³	California	Other ⁴	U.S. total ⁵
<i>Million cwt.</i>							
1975	4.7	.5	7.4	2.0	2.6	.2	17.4
1976	5.5	.4	7.2	1.9	2.8	.1	17.8
1977	5.7	.4	6.2	1.4	2.9	.1	16.6
1978	6.0	.4	7.4	1.8	3.3	—	18.9
1979	6.4	.5	8.1	1.9	3.6	—	20.5
1980	7.4	.7	11.5	2.5	3.9	—	26.1
1981 ⁶	6.8	.6	15.7	3.4	4.4	—	32.0

¹Cleaned basis. ²Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and Washington. ³Kansas, Colorado, and Utah. ⁴Discontinued beginning 1978. ⁵May not add to total due to rounding. ⁶Indicated.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 5—Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Reported commercial acreage and projected production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1980 and indicated 1981

Seasonal group and crop	Planted acres			Indicated production ¹		
	1980 major States	1981		Major states		
		Indicated major States	Percent of 1980	1980	1981	Percent of 1980 ⁴
	<i>1,000 acres</i>		<i>Percent</i>	<i>Mil. cwt.</i>		<i>Percent</i>
January 1	216.1	197.7	91			
April 1	354.7	372.2	105			
July 1	535.0	539.7	101			
Snap beans	24.1	22.4	93	.7	.7	97
Broccoli ²	19.5	20.5	105	1.6	1.8	109
Cabbage	12.7	12.7	100	2.1	2.1	97
Carrots ²	16.3	14.9	91	3.6	3.4	96
Cauliflower ²	12.6	12.3	98	1.1	1.1	98
Celery ²	8.9	8.5	96	4.5	4.2	94
Sweet corn	15.3	13.9	91	1.0	.9	89
Cucumbers	17.0	16.3	96	1.7	1.7	99
Eggplant	1.1	.9	77	.2	.2	78
Escarole-Endive	2.4	2.1	87	.2	.2	98
Lettuce	71.2	68.2	96	15.6	14.8	95
Green peppers ²	13.1	12.6	96	1.5	1.3	91
Spinach	3.6	2.8	78	.2	.2	70
Tomatoes	13.6	10.9	80	3.5	2.7	75
Total 14 vegetables ³	231.2	218.9	95	37.6	35.1	94
Cantaloups	8.7	8.9	102	.9	1.0	113
Honeydew melons	2.6	3.8	146	.5	.8	151
Total melons ³	11.3	12.7	112	1.4	1.8	127

¹These are projections based on historic relationships and are not official estimates of the Crop Reporting Board. ²Includes fresh market and processing. ³May not add to total due to rounding. ⁴Percentage figures listed are correct-Production and Acreage data in this table have been rounded. Vegetables for Fresh Market, SRS, USDA.

**Table 6—Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (wholesale lots)
at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition
(U.S. No. 1 when available), indicated periods 1980 and 1981**

Market and commodity	State of origin	Unit	1980		1981	
			Sept. 9	Oct. 14	Sept. 8	Oct. 6
			Dollars			
New York						
Broccoli	California	14's crt.	11.00	8.75	10.50	10.75
Cabbage, domestic round type	New York	Various crates	6.50	4.62	3.75	4.50
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt. 36's	13.50	9.50	8.25	8.00
Carrots, topped		48 1-lb. film				
washed	California	bag, ctn.	9.50	10.25	8.25	10.00
Cauliflower	Long Island	Crt. 12's	10.00	7.75	10.00	11.50
Celery, Pascal	New York	2-3 doz.	7.75	—	—	—
Celery, Pascal	California	2-3 doz.	10.50	8.50	—	—
Corn, sweet	New York	5 doz. crate	4.25	—	—	—
Cucumbers	Virginia	Bu. bskt.	—	10.50	10.00	—
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. cnt.	13.00	9.25	10.00	8.00
Onions, yellow Spanish large	Idaho-Oregon	50 lb. sack	7.25	7.50	8.00	8.25
Onions, yellow globe medium	New York	50 lb. sack	5.00	5.25	—	—
Spinach, savory	New Jersey	Bu. bskt	—	—	—	—
Chicago						
Beans, snap green round green	Illinois	Bu. hamper	10.00	—	11.50	11.00
Broccoli	California	14's crt.	7.50	7.50	10.00	9.50
Cabbage, domestic round type	Illinois	Various crates	5.25	4.75	3.75	3.25
Cantaloups	California	Jumbo crt., 36's	12.00	7.75	8.25	8.25
Cauli- flower	California	Ctns., film wrpd., 12's	10.00	8.25	10.50	12.50
Celery, Pascal	California	2-4 doz.	10.00	9.00	11.50	11.00
Cucumbers	Illinois	Bu. bskt.	8.50	—	11.00	11.00
Green Peppers	Illinois	Bu. bskt., lge.	—	—	8.00	6.00
Honeydews	California	Crts., 5-8's	5.50	5.50	6.50	6.25
Lettuce, Iceberg	California	2 doz. ctn.	11.00	7.00	11.00	8.00
Onions, yellow Spanish large	Idaho-California	50 lb. sack	7.25	7.00	7.50	8.50
Onions, yellow globe medium	Midwestern	50 lb. sack	6.50	6.00	7.25	6.25
Tomatoes, green, ripen and turning, med.-lge.	California	2 lyr. lug	12.00	8.00	8.50	9.50

Weekly Summary of Terminal Market Prices, AMS, USDA.

Market News Reports

Table 7—Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers (unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States by months, 1965 to date¹

Period	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual
(1977=100)													
1965	39	42	49	55	64	52	43	39	40	44	45	44	46
1966	56	58	51	55	48	50	58	52	46	46	52	48	52
1967	51	48	49	56	53	65	55	43	40	45	51	53	51
1968	60	59	64	66	53	50	47	44	47	46	57	60	54
1969	53	55	58	56	60	49	49	48	46	57	76	66	56
1970	66	62	62	55	62	56	51	49	56	48	52	48	56
1971	56	59	75	69	64	65	60	52	50	61	87	70	64
1972	79	67	58	68	62	62	59	63	65	57	75	70	65
1973	79	78	86	101	96	96	91	67	63	62	64	65	79
1974	69	82	67	77	86	87	77	71	71	83	85	74	77
1975	86	86	84	90	85	105	90	79	81	81	89	100	88
1976	99	90	91	95	67	79	86	81	90	96	94	87	88
1977	120	129	134	111	92	76	86	81	84	91	106	90	100
1978	103	105	112	148	120	118	106	86	89	86	89	107	106
1979	132	145	126	108	104	103	95	98	92	97	106	100	109
1980	98	93	109	118	119	111	100	104	110	105	122	129	110
1981 ²	142	166	176	135	132	116	133	119	114				

¹All prices reported on f.o.b. basis. ²Preliminary.

Table 8—Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1979 and 1980 and canners' and wholesale distributors' stocks 1980 and 1981 by commodities, United States

Commodity	Pack		Stocks					
	1979	1980	Canners			Wholesale distributors ¹		
			Date	1980	1981	Date	1980	1981 ¹
1,000 cases 24/303's								
Major commodities								
Beans, snap	66,281	59,689	July 1	11,293	15,918	July 1	4,081	4,394
Beets	14,990	11,322	July 1	6,672	5,775	July 1	998	555
Corn, sweet	60,022	50,574	July 1	9,597	4,745	July 1	4,434	4,653
Peas, green	36,492	30,056	June 1	6,247	6,160	June 1	2,765	2,987
Sauerkraut	12,980	11,280	Aug 1	2,448	2,036	July 1	587	580
Total	190,675	162,921		36,257	34,634		12,865	13,169
Tomato items								
Tomatoes	52,896	53,096	July 1	12,313	10,275	July 1	2,990	3,195
Tomato juice ²	31,517	26,617	July 1	5,170	3,014	July 1	1,089	1,851
Total	84,413	79,713		17,483	13,289		4,079	5,046
Other commodities								
Asparagus	2,819	2,535	Mar 1	1,025	728	Apr 1	332	323
Beans, lima	3,061	2,833	Aug 1	580	805	July 1	—	—
Field peas	2,542	1,965		—	—		—	—
Carrots	6,928	5,082	July 1	3,779	2,312	July 1	555	555
Okra ³	436	391		—	—		—	—
Pickles	75,367	68,018		—	—		—	—
Pimientos	530	540		—	—		—	—
Pumpkin and squash	3,997	5,219	July 1	920	581	July 1	301	580
Potatoes	16,451	15,043		—	—		—	—
Sweetpotatoes	9,174	5,917		—	—		—	—
Spinach	8,121	6,314	MAR 1	3,120	3,407	Apr 1	563	544
Other greens	3,195	2,624		—	—		—	—
Total comparable other items	132,607	116,481		9,424	7,833		1,751	2,002
Grand total comparable items	407,695	395,115		63,164	55,756		18,695	20,217

¹Crop for processing converted to a canned basis by applying an overall conversion factor (pickles 112 and sauerkraut 54 cases equivalent to 1 ton fresh). ²Includes combination vegetable juices containing at least 70 percent tomato juice. ³Okra, okra and tomatoes, and okra, corn and tomatoes. N.A.=not available.

Canners' stock and pack data from the National Food Processors Association, Pickles and sauerkraut pack SRS derived, Sauerkraut stocks National Kraut Packers Asdso., derived. Wholesale distributors' stock from the Bureau of Census.

Table 9—Vegetables, frozen: United States commercial packs 1979 and 1980, and cold storage holdings, October 1 with comparisons

Commodity	Packs		Cold storage holdings		
	1979	1980	Oct. 1, 1979	Oct. 1, 1980	Oct. 1, 1981 ¹
	<i>Million pounds</i>				
Asparagus	24	11	16	11	8
Beans, lima:					
Fordhook	41	31	46	47	27
Baby	83	53	72	56	35
Total	124	84	118	103	62
Beans, snap:					
Regular cut	162	156	157	171	164
French cut	92	72	74	69	65
Wax	11	9	NA	NA	NA
Total	265	237	231	240	229
Broccoli	299	291	89	104	102
Brussels sprouts	61	63	22	23	24
Carrots	263	191	80	81	48
Cauliflower	101	85	67	47	37
Corn, cut	311	271	267	180	219
Corn-on-cob	269	259	212	183	193
Mixed vegetables	(2)	(2)	44	45	40
Mushrooms	14	15	NA	NA	NA
Onions	167	156	23	25	26
Peas	427	316	390	328	293
Peas and carrots	(2)	(2)	11	11	10
Pumpkin and squash	24	23	31	35	37
Rhubarb	8	8	NA	NA	NA
Southern greens ³	69	57	15	24	22
Spinach	181	169	81	71	91
Okra	33	42	45	43	36
Peas, blackeye	21	21	13	6	6
Miscellaneous vegetables	192	158	199	174	173
Total ⁴	2,853	2,457	1,954	1,734	1,659
French fried potatoes	3,488	3,182	545	526	446
Other frozen potatoes	602	671	103	101	94
Total frozen potatoes	4,090	3,853	648	627	541
Grand total ⁴	6,943	6,310	2,602	2,361	2,200

¹Preliminary. ²Included in miscellaneous vegetables. ³Includes collards, kale, mustards, turnips green/turnips. ⁴May not add due to rounding. NA = Not Available

Pack data from American Frozen Food Institute. Stocks from Cold Storage Report, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 10—Vegetables, fresh: Average prices received by farmers, per hundredweight, United States, September 15, 1981 with comparisons

Commodity	1980			1981	
	August	September	July	August	September 1-15
	<i>Dollars</i>				
Beans, snap	27.30	24.80	28.10	28.20	26.20
Cabbage	8.22	8.93	7.12	7.14	7.12
Cantaloups	12.70	11.00	15.60	10.80	10.70
Carrots	12.80	14.30	12.60	13.00	11.60
Celery	7.84	8.26	11.50	10.60	10.40
Corn, sweet	8.96	9.55	12.20	10.30	10.50
Cucumbers	12.20	11.90	15.80	14.40	16.20
Lettuce	7.98	10.10	13.10	12.10	12.00
Onions	10.40	10.30	18.30	15.90	11.60
Peppers, green	18.60	15.90	27.90	19.10	18.70
Tomatoes	23.20	23.10	22.80	21.00	20.30
Watermelons	6.13	6.67	5.88	5.36	6.26

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 11—Fresh and processed vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1980 and 1981

Commodity, month, and retail unit	Retail price ¹	Marketing margin		Farm value ^{2 3}	
		Absolute	Percentage of retail value	Absolute	Percentage of retail value
		<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fresh:					
Carrots (Pound)					
July 1981	42.0	28.6	68	13.4	32
June 1981	39.0	24.3	62	14.7	38
July 1980	36.5	22.2	61	14.3	39
Celery (Pound)					
July 1981	44.2	28.6	65	15.6	35
June 1981	39.2	21.1	53	18.4	47
July 1980	34.8	27.3	78	7.5	22
Lettuce (Head)					
July 1981	89.0	66.1	74	22.9	26
June 1981	79.0	54.7	69	24.3	31
July 1980	64.0	52.0	81	12.0	19
Onions, dry yellow (Pound)					
July 1981	52.0	35.3	68	16.7	32
June 1981	54.5	36.8	68	17.7	32
July 1980	40.0	28.8	72	11.2	28
Processed: ⁴					
Peas, Canned (303 can)					
Apr. 1981	54.0	46.3	86	7.7	14
Jan. 1981	52.0	44.3	85	7.7	15
Apr. 1980	49.0	41.8	85	7.2	15
Green, Beans, Frozen (9 oz)					
Apr. 1981	61.0	55.8	91	5.2	9
Jan. 1981	62.0	56.8	92	5.2	8
Apr. 1980	60.0	54.8	91	5.2	9
Tomatoes Canned (303 can)					
July 1981	64.0	59.5	93	4.5	7
Apr. 1981	62.0	57.5	93	4.5	7
July 1980	59.0	53.9	91	5.1	9

¹Division of Markets, State Department of Agriculture and Markets, NY. ²For quantity of product equivalent to retail unit sold to consumers: Because of waste and spoilage during marketing, equivalent quantity exceeds retail unit. Fresh: F.O.B. shipping point price, processed: Equivalent packinghouse door returns. ³Production areas: Carrots-California, Celery-California, Lettuce-California, Onions-Texas, Canned Peas-Minnesota and Wisconsin, Frozen Green Beans-Western States, Canned Tomatoes-Eastern States. ⁴Priced quarterly.

Table 12—Potatoes white: Acreage, yield per acre, and production annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981

Season group	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest 1981	Indicated		1979	1980 ¹	Indicated 1981	
	1979	1980 ¹		1979	1980 ¹				
	1,000 acres			cwt.			1,000 cwt.		
Winter	11.9	11.5	11.6	200	205	189	2,383	2,363	2,198
Spring	83.7	71.6	78.4	255	238	265	21,348	17,067	20,752
Summer	103.6	90.1	95.0	211	189	210	21,847	16,999	19,937
Fall									
7 Eastern	191.8	178.8	178.0	254	236	258	48,695	42,193	45,870
8 Central	294.4	283.7	293.7	212	193	215	62,326	54,672	63,197
9 Western	584.9	518.7	572.9	318	327	311	185,898	169,563	177,984
Total	1,077.1	981.2	1,042.7	277	272	275	296,919	266,428	287,051
United States	1,270.3	1,154.4	1,229.6	270	262	268	342,497	302,857	329,938

¹Revised.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 13—Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1980 and 1981

Shipping point and variety	1980			1981		
	August 16	September 6	October 11	August 8	September 5	October 3
<i>Dollars</i>						
New Jersey Round whites	9.00	8.90	9.12	—	6.38	6.68
Long Island, N.Y., Round whites	8.86	8.54	9.76	7.38	6.26	6.68
Michigan Round whites	7.86	7.38	7.84	7.10	6.00	6.64
Minnesota Reds	9.00	10.13	9.24	8.55	7.38	7.00
Colorado Reds	—	11.00	18.60	9.00	—	9.00
Washington ¹ Norgolds	19.70	22.50	—	19.00	14.13	11.90

¹Cwt. Basis.

Note - F.O.B. prices are simple averages of the range of daily for the week ended on indicated data. Compiled from Market News Service reports.

Table 14—Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated periods, 1980 and 1981

	1980			1981		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
<i>Dollars</i>						
U.S. farm price	5.91	7.64	6.02	8.86	8.60	6.00
Parity price	7.50	7.60	7.66	8.40	8.41	8.43
Price as percent of parity	79	101	79	105	102	71

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 15—Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981

Area	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production		
	Harvested		For harvest	1979	1980	Indicated 1981	1979	1980	Indicated 1981
	1979	1980							
	1,000 acres			cwt.			1,000 cwt.		
Central Atlantic ¹	8.0	5.8	6.1	129	123	137	1,035	713	838
Lower Atlantic ²	48.6	44.0	47.1	119	112	118	5,774	4,943	5,572
Central ³	48.0	44.0	46.7	103	86	94	4,929	3,785	4,372
California	9.6	8.4	8.9	170	180	190	1,632	1,512	1,691
United States	114.2	102.2	108.8	117	107	115	13,370	10,953	12,473

¹New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia. ²North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. ³Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, annual and monthly reports.

Table 16—Sweetpotatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1980 and 1981

Item	State	Unit	Week ended			
			1980		1981	
			Sept. 6	Oct. 11	Sept. 5	Oct. 3
<i>Dollars</i>						
F.o.b. shipping point						
Porto Rico type, uncured	Eastern North Carolina points	U.S. no 1 50 lb. crt.	9.25	7.50	10.25	8.38
Porto Rico type, uncured	Southern Louisiana points	U.S. no. 1 50 lb. crt.	9.50	8.50	11.00	8.25
Porto Rico type, Garnet	Stockton, California	40 lb. ctn	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuesday</i>						
<i>1980</i>						
<i>Sept. 9</i>						
<i>Dollars</i>						
Terminal markets						
New York						
Porto Rico, uncured	North Carolina	50 lb. ctn	9.50	9.50	11.00	11.00
Chicago						
Porto Rico, uncured	Louisiana	50 lb. ctn.	12.50	11.00	13.50	12.00

F.o.b. prices are simple averages of the range of daily prices, compiled from Market News Service reports. The market prices are representative prices for Tuesday of each week and are submitted by the Market News Service representative at each market.

Table 17—U.S. average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas indicated periods, 1980 and 1981

Commodity	1980			1981		
	July	August	September	July	August	September
<i>Dollars</i>						
Field crops:						
Sweetpotatoes	16.00	11.70	9.38	24.70	14.10	10.90
Beans, dry edible	25.80	26.30	24.50	35.40	26.70	20.60
Peas, dry field	10.10	9.36	8.40	10.60	10.10	8.86

Agricultural Prices, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

Table 18—Beans, dry edible: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981¹

Group State and classes	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production ²		
	Harvested		For harvest 1981	1979	1980	Indicated 1981	1979	1980	Indicated 1981
	1979	1980							
	1,000 acres								
Michigan	460	560	570	1,400	1,330	1,200	6,440	7,448	6,840
New York	40	51	49	1,150	1,300	1,504	460	663	637
Northwest ³	487	770	1,041	1,665	1,499	1,296	8,107	11,542	15,658
Southwest ⁴	190	235	266	984	1,080	1,230	1,869	2,538	3,447
California:									
Large lima	27	35	30	1,960	2,150	2,050	529	753	615
Baby lima	29	20	27	2,260	2,250	2,200	656	450	594
Other	151	165	188	1,600	1,640	1,690	2,415	2,706	3,177
Total California	207	220	245	1,739	1,777	1,790	3,600	3,909	4,386
United States ⁵	1,384	1,836	2,171	1,480	1,422	1,426	20,476	26,100	30,968

¹Includes beans grown for garden seed. ²Cleaned basis. ³Nebraska, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Washington, Minnesota, and North Dakota. ⁴Kansas, Colorado, and Utah. ⁵May not add due to rounding.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA issued monthly.

Table 19—Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981¹

States	Acreage			Yield per acre			Production ²		
	Harvested		For harvest	1979	1980	Indicated 1981	1979	1980	Indicated 1981
	1979	1980							
	1,000 acres			Pounds			1,000 cwt.		
Idaho	51	63	52	1,380	2,300	2,000	704	1,449	1,040
Washington	85	72	60	1,570	2,550	2,000	1,335	1,836	1,200
United States	136	135	112	1,499	2,433	2,000	2,039	3,285	2,240

¹In principal commercial producing States. Includes peas grown for seed and cannery peas harvested dry. ²Cleaned basis.

Crop Production, SRS, USDA, issued monthly.

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
1. Harvested acreage and production of commercial vegetables for processing.	18
2. Fall potatoes: Production by areas, United States.	18
3. Sweetpotatoes: Production by areas, United States.	18
4. Dry edible beans: Production by areas, United States.	19
5. Vegetables and melons for fresh market: Commercial acreage and production of principal crops, selected seasons, 1979, 1980 and indicated 1981.	19
6. Vegetables, fresh: Representative prices (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago for stock of generally good quality and condition (U.S. No. 1, when available), indicated periods 1980 and 1981.	20
7. Vegetables, commercial for fresh market: Index numbers—(unadjusted) of prices received by farmers, United States by months, 1965 to date.	21
8. Canned vegetables: Commercial packs 1979 and 1980 and canners and wholesale distributors' stocks 1980 and 1981 by commodities, United States.	21
9. Vegetables, frozen: United States commercial packs 1979 and 1980 cold storage holdings October 1, 1981 with comparisons.	22
10. Vegetables, fresh: Average prices received by farmers, per hundredweight, United States, September 15, 1981 with comparisons.	22
11. Fresh and processed vegetables: Retail price, marketing margin, and farm value per unit, sold in New York City, indicated months, 1980 and 1981.	23
12. Potatoes, white: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980 and indicated 1981.	23
13. Potatoes: Prices f.o.b. shipping points, per hundredweight, U.S. No. 1 grade or better, indicated periods, 1980 and 1981.	24
14. Potatoes: U.S. average price received by farmers, per hundredweight, indicated period, 1980 and 1981.	24
15. Sweetpotatoes: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981.	24
16. Sweetpotatoes: Price f.o.b. shipping points and wholesale price (wholesale lots) at New York and Chicago, indicated periods 1980 and 1981.	25
17. U.S. average price per hundredweight received by farmers for sweetpotatoes, dry edible beans, and dry field peas, indicated periods, 1980 and 1981.	25
18. Beans, dry edible: Acreage, field per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980, and indicated 1981.	26
19. Peas, dry field: Acreage, yield per acre, and production, annual 1979, 1980 and indicated 1981.	26

Fall Potatoes: Production, Consumption, Marketing Patterns, Prices and Spreads

by
Stephen M. Raleigh

ABSTRACT: This report traces trends in the production and marketing of fresh market potatoes. Marketing patterns for Idaho-Washington russets, Red River Valley round reds, and Maine round white potatoes are noted. Marketing margins, or price spreads, for western Russets and Maine-New York round white potatoes sold in New York City are measured. A simple trend analysis indicates that the retail value of western Russet potatoes sold in New York City increased an average of \$1.00 per 100 pounds per season during the 1964/65-1980/81 period. The wholesale-retail spread increased 39 cents; the shipping point-wholesale spread, 30 cents; and grower-packer returns 30 cents per 100 pounds per year during the period.

Key words: Potatoes, production, consumption, marketing margins, prices, price-spreads.

Production

Potatoes are the most important vegetable crop grown in the United States. They are grown throughout the mainland, and 39 States grow enough to be considered commercial producing areas. The number of producers has rapidly declined; there were 28,500 farms producing potatoes in 1978—the latest year for which these data are available down 80 percent from 156,000, 15 years earlier. The number of farms producing potatoes in a State is not related to acres harvested, quantity harvested, or value of the crop. Six States with the largest number of farms do not appear in the top ten for any of the production categories, (table 1).

Based on U.S. Bureau of Census figures, Idaho has been the leading State in acres harvested and crop value since 1964. Washington and Oregon and Red River Valley of Minnesota/North Dakota represent other major production areas. Large increases in acres harvested have occurred in Washington 200 percent, Oregon 94 percent, North Dakota 40 percent and Idaho, 60 percent. Total quantity harvested increased 61 percent during the 1964-78 period with some very marked increases of over 100 percent in several States—Washington, 328 percent; Oregon, 221 percent; Idaho, 159; and North Dakota, over 100 percent. Minnesota, Wisconsin and Colorado increased production by about one-third. Among the top ten States, production in Maine, New York and California declined between 1964 and 1978.

The value of potato production has also increased in all of the top ten States except Maine. The total value of the U.S. crop has increased 65 percent. There were very large increases in value of production in the top ten States—Washington nearly 500 percent; Oregon, 200 percent; Idaho nearly 150 percent; and Wisconsin and Florida nearly 100 percent each.

Fall potato production accounts for 88 percent of the volume and 86 percent of the value of the annual potato crop (table 2). Most fall potatoes are harvested in late summer or early fall; then stored and sold during late fall, winter, and spring. Fall potatoes are grown in 24

States, but production is concentrated in only a few. In 1980, Idaho led with approximately 30 percent of the fall production, followed by Washington with 16 percent (table 3). These two States and the balance of the Western States account for more than 60 percent of the U.S. fall potato crop. Maine leads in producing potatoes in the East, followed by New York. The eastern production has declined from 28 percent to 16 percent of total fall production over the last 15 years. The Red River Valley's production has increased by more than 30 percent, but the Midwest's share of fall production has remained at one-fifth of the total.

The type of potato that has predominated in Idaho—Washington differs from that grown in the East. Idaho and Washington mainly produce the Russet, while Maine and New York mainly produce round white potatoes. The round red has traditionally been the mainstay of the Red River Valley, but round white chipping varieties, now account for a large tonnage. In 1981, Russet-type potatoes accounted for about 95 percent of the acres planted in Idaho and approximately 90 percent in Washington. Katahdin and Superior varieties continue to be the most important round white potatoes in Maine and New York. In Maine, Russet-type potatoes are increasing in importance and in 1981, accounted for about one-fifth of the planted acreage. Round reds, such as Norland and Pontiac, are the most important varieties in the Red River Valley for fresh consumption, but Norchip and Kennebec, processing varieties used for chips, were more important in number of acres planted. Russet also account for a significant share of the total tonnage from this key producing region. Wisconsin is also a rapidly growing areas as a successful Russet producer.

Utilization

Total potato production has increased by 18 percent since 1965 to 342 million cwt, in 1979/80. The year 1980 must be considered an atypical year with a very short crop (302 million cwt); total production was much lower than in the previous 5 years\m322 million cwt in

1975/76, 358 in 1976/77, 355 in 1977/78, 366 in 1978/79 and 342 million in 1979/80 (table 4). Over this period, there have been some marked shifts in the use of domestic production. Table-stock or fresh-potato use has declined from 48 percent of production in 1965/66 to about one-third, equivalent to 115 million cwt in 1979/80 and a low of 97 million cwt in 1980/81. Processing use—frozen, canned, dehydrated, or used for chips—has increased by two-thirds during this same period and, in 1979/80, accounted for 166 million cwt. A major portion of the increased use has occurred in frozen potatoes, primarily french fries. Frozen french fries were 11 percent of the total production in 1965/66, but by 1980/81 utilization doubled to about 22 percent of total production.

Consumption

Consumption of potatoes (total of fresh and processed) increased over 13 pounds per person between 1956 and 1980, 9.2 pounds per person in the 1965-1979 period. In 1956, more than 85 percent of all potatoes were consumed fresh. In 1965, the consumption dropped to 64 percent and by 1980, only 47 percent was consumed as fresh potatoes. Over the same period processed consumption increased nearly four-fold, from 17 pounds in 1956-57 to 62 pounds in 1980 (raw weight basis).

The largest and most consistent growth in consumption has occurred in frozen potatoes, almost tripling in the late 50's, doubling again in the 60's and continuing to grow in the 70's to 33.8 pounds per person in 1980. Dehydrated potato consumption doubled between 1956-1959 and 1960-64 and more than doubled during the next decade. Per capita disappearance has remained fairly constant during the last 5 years having fallen back from a peak reached during the 1970's. Chip and shoestring consumption increased rapidly during the late 50's and early 60's. The rate of growth has tapered off in recent years, with per capita consumption edging up slightly each year.

Fresh Marketing Pattern

Table 6 indicates where fresh market potatoes from three major production areas—Maine-New York, Red River Valley, and Idaho-Washington—are being sold, based on 1965 and 1980 unload data from the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). The data identify the sources of monthly rail and truck unloads in 41 major U.S. cities.

Maine-New York Potatoes

The bulk of Maine-New York fresh potatoes stay close to home—74 percent in 1965 and 86 percent in 1980 were unloaded in the East. New York City took 33 percent in 1965 and 29 percent in 1980, followed by Boston with 16 and 17 percent, respectively. Only 12 percent of the Maine-New York potatoes in 1965 and 6 percent in 1980 were marketed in the Midwest and 14 percent in 1965 and 8 percent in 1980 went to the South. Unloads of either Maine or New York potatoes were not reported in the West in either year.

Trucks are now the dominant mode of transportation in moving Maine and New York potatoes to market. All New York and Maine potatoes were shipped by trucks in 1980, 86 percent in the early 1970's, and 64 percent in 1965 (table 7).

Red River Valley

Unload data for Red River Valley potatoes followed the pattern of Maine-New York. Most fresh potatoes were marketed within the region—78 percent in 1965 and 68 percent in 1980 were unloaded in the Midwest. The southern region was the second most important recipient for unloads from the Red River Valley—18 percent in 1965 and 27 percent in 1980. A very small portion of the crop (2 to 4 percent) was marketed in the East or West.

Trucks also are the major form of transportation for Red River Valley potatoes. The trucks' share has increased dramatically, over rail from 33 percent in 1965 to 90 percent in 1980.

Idaho-Washington Potatoes

Unloads of Idaho-Washington potatoes are more evenly distributed than those of the other two areas. Thirty-three percent of the unloads were marketed in the West, with Los Angeles taking 13 percent and Seattle 8 percent of the 41 city total in 1965. The Western share dropped to 29 percent in 1980, with 7 percent going to Los Angeles and Seattle increasing to 10 percent. The Midwest was the second largest market for Washington-Idaho fresh potatoes, with 29 percent of the unloads in both 1965 and 1980. Twenty percent were unloaded in the East in 1965 and 22 percent in 1980. The South received the balance, 18 percent in 1965 and 20 percent in 1980. New York City accounted for at least half of the Washington-Idaho eastern unloads in both years.

In 1980, over half the Idaho-Washington potatoes moved by truck. This compares with 1965, when approximately 80 percent of the fresh potatoes moved by rail. The East and South were the only areas where more than half the Idaho-Washington potatoes moved by rail. The East was the only region where rail transportation had not declined sharply during the past 15 years. Rail unloads were 95 percent of total Idaho-Washington fresh potatoes marketed in the East in 1965 and 86 percent in 1980. In the South rail dominance declined from 92 percent to 52 percent of the Idaho-Washington unloads for that region.

Potato unloads in New York City for 1965 and 1980 by place of origin are shown in table 8. Maine-New York potatoes clearly dominated the New York City market in 1965 from October through May. Idaho-Washington potatoes were spread over this same period. Most potatoes entering the market in September and October were early season fall potatoes from New York and Washington. Maine and Idaho fall potatoes were usually offered later. However, this pattern changed by 1980, as Idaho potatoes became much more important, increasing to 32 percent of the market, up from 7 percent in 1965. Most of the New York City unloads classified under "other" are summer potatoes from California, Virginia, Delaware, and New Jersey.

Prices and Spreads

Fresh eastern round white and western Russet potatoes were priced at three levels—f.o.b. shipping point (Maine-New York and Idaho-Washington), and wholesale and retail at New York City. Retail prices in the first full week of the month were collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics prior to 1978 and since by the New York State Department of Agriculture - Division of Market Information. The wholesale price is the Tuesday price for the retail-pricing week. The shipping point price is an average of daily prices for the week preceeding the retail-price week. Shipping point prices and wholesale prices are reported by the Federal State Market News Service. Monthly prices are weighted by monthly potato unloads in New York City from corresponding shipping points to obtain the average price for the season. A September-April season, when supplies of fall potatoes are heaviest, was used.

The retail value of 100 pounds of potatoes represents the returns to the retailer for salable potatoes (retail price minus 4 percent allowance for spoilage and loss during marketing). The grower and packer return is equivalent to, and is measured by, the shipping point price. The grower and packer return is the amount received by those who performed the functions of growing, harvesting, grading, packing, and selling. These functions may or may not be performed by one firm. The wholesale retail spread—derived by deducting the wholesale price from the adjusted retail value—is payment for secondary wholesaling, intracity transportation and retailing. The shipping point-wholesale spread—derived by deducting the shipping point price from the wholesale price—is payment for transportation from the shipping point and for primary wholesaling.

Round White Potatoes

The retail price of round white potatoes from Maine and New York in New York City increased on the average of over three-quarters of a cent per pound each season from 1964/65 to 1980/81. However, most of the increase occurred during 1972-74 and in 1980/81. A record-high retail price of 27.6 cents per pound was recorded in 1980/81, 18.5 cents more than in 1964/65 and up 10.3 cents from the previous high of 1973/74 (table 9). The retail price, wholesale price and shipping point (F.O.B.) prices per 100 pounds all hit records in 1980/81, more than double the 1964/65 levels. The retail value increased to 200 percent above 1964/65 in 1980/81. The wholesale price in 1980/81 increased to 187 percent higher than in 1964/65 or 1974/75, but the grower-packer return is 60 percent greater today than in 1964/65. The wholesale-retail spread continued to increase, in 1974/75 averaging 84 percent more than 1964/65 and in 1980/81, 222 percent higher.

A simple trend line fitted to the data for round white potatoes in table 9 indicated that the retail value of potatoes sold in New York City increased an average of 84 cents per 100 pounds per season during the 17 seasons from 1964/65 to 1980/81. The wholesale-retail spread increased 48 cents per 100 pounds per season, the ship-

ping point-wholesale spread rose 20 cents, and the growers and packers return went up 17 cents.

The market share or percentage of the retail value going to growers and packers and to other marketing factors fluctuated from season to season. The growers' and packers' share declined over the 17-year period. Their share was 35 percent for the first ten year period but declined to 28 percent for the last 7 years. For the 17 seasons, the wholesale spread averaged 57 percent of the value. The shipping point-wholesale spread was averaged 8 percent for the first 11 seasons and 15 percent for the last five.

Russet Potatoes

The retail price of fall western Russet potatoes in New York City increased a little more than one cent per pound a year between 1964/65 and 1980/81. Similar to the round white, most of the increase occurred in 1972/73 and 1973/74 and until 1980/81 when the retail price increased 10.7 cents. But unlike the round whites, the retail price of Russet potatoes did not fall. The retail, wholesale and shipping point prices per 100 pounds all has record highs for the first 10 years of this study in 1973/74, substantially higher than in 1964/65 (table 10). Grower and packer returns fell to near the 1964/65 level in 1974/75 and remained there or just a little higher until 1980/81 when the price nearly doubled. The wholesale and retail prices generally have continued to increase slightly through 1979/80, followed by a large jump in 1980/81. The shipping point-wholesale and wholesale-retail spreads both continued an upward trend through 1979/80.

A simple trend analysis indicates that the retail value of western Russets potatoes sold in New York City increased an average of \$1.00 per 100 pounds per season during 1964/65-1980/81. During this period, the wholesale-retail spread rose 30 cents; and grower and packer returns also climbed 30 cents.

The market shares, or percentage of the retail value going to growers and packers and other market factors, fluctuated from season to season with a slight downward trend in grower returns, an upward trend in the shipping point-wholesale spread, and no significant change in the wholesale-retail spread. For the 17 seasons, the wholesale-retail spread averaged 46 percent; the shipping point-wholesale spread, 24 percent; and grower and packer returns 30 percent.

Price and Spreads Compared

Prices at the three levels—retail, wholesale, and shipping point—and the spreads were higher for western Russet potatoes than for eastern round white potatoes in each season.

Some of the higher retail prices of Russets over round whites in New York City can be explained by higher transportation costs for shipping potatoes from the Idaho-Washington area than from Maine or New York. Truck rates for potatoes from Idaho to New York city averaged \$3.32 per 100 pounds in 1974/75, and \$5.23 in 1979/80, with rates from Washington slightly higher.

Truck rates from Maine to New York City averaged \$1.20 in 1974/75 and \$2.09 in 1979/80 per 100 pound, with rates from Long Island under a dollar in both seasons. Many of the western Russet potatoes are shipped to New York by rail, which has traditionally been a little cheaper than trucks. In 1974/75 the rail rate was \$3.06 per 100 pounds, not really much different from truck. More recent rail rates are not available for comparison.

Some of the retail price differential can also be explained by the way wholesale-to-retail markups are computed. Wholesale and retail markups on many fresh fruits and vegetables are computed from purchase price and expressed as a percentage of the selling price. A given percentage markup, when applied to higher priced western Russet potatoes, results in a larger dollar margin than when applied to lower priced eastern potatoes.

Prices at the three levels for both eastern round white potatoes and western Russet potatoes changed in the same direction during most of the first 11 years studied. Retail, wholesale, and grower prices for the eastern

round white potato did not return to the alltime high of 1973/74, whereas retail and wholesale prices for Russet potatoes are now higher than when most price increases occurred. There were no significant changes in the market shares going to grower-packers, the shipping point-wholesale spread, or the wholesale-retail spreads for either type of potato over the first 11 seasons. However, more recently for the grower-packer returns share of retail value has declined slightly for both type. Increased shares in shipping point-wholesale spreads occurred for both, types and the wholesale-retail spread increased for eastern round whites.

For the 1981/82 season, grower/packer prices will probably be less than during the previous year when the prices were at record high. The retail price may also average slightly lower, especially since the western Russet potatoes are in good supply this year. Also, experience of recent years suggests that spreads will continue to widen.

Table 1.--Potatoes--Top Ten Leading States: number of farms, acres harvested, quantity and value, 1964-1978 (base year, 1974)

	Number of farms					Acres harvested			
	1964	1969	1974	1978		1964	1969	1974	1978
United States	155,769	55,444	51,499	28,578	United States	1,151,505	1,260,882	1,345,121	1,395,150
North Carolina	17,688	5,722	3,629	2,061	Idaho	227,325	272,041	315,921	364,243
Kentucky	14,460	4,549	3,422	1,620	Maine	130,106	151,369	136,963	118,170
Tennessee	8,125	4,075	2,713	2,145	North Dakota	95,819	112,274	131,614	140,033
Idaho	3,936	2,940	2,257	2,296	Minnesota	92,465	77,490	105,023	86,606
Virginia	9,450	3,153	1,824	1,344	Washington	36,476	63,047	92,474	110,701
Pennsylvania	4,441	2,266	1,676	1,726	California	82,548	77,052	60,360	54,083
Maine	2,649	1,892	1,575	1,398	Oregon	34,440	46,193	55,611	66,992
New York	3,055	1,290	1,456	1,166	New York	73,516	66,209	55,519	50,260
Minnesota	5,735	2,015	920	820	Wisconsin	53,343	45,660	54,006	62,123
Texas	3,547	1,533	862	1,306	Colorado	43,669	47,135	43,895	52,716
	Quantity harvested (1,000 cwt)					Value (\$1,000)			
	1964	1969	1974	1978		1964	1969	1974	1978
United States	219,105	273,044	316,164	353,080	United States	750,799	547,973	1,364,693	1,235,528
Idaho	37,231	60,332	78,025	96,375	Idaho	101,969	107,994	327,706	250,561
Washington	11,009	23,985	35,418	47,100	Washington	23,322	35,258	145,216	134,235
Maine	35,151	32,804	33,873	25,760	California	79,679	55,106	121,076	110,345
North Dakota	10,634	16,398	20,927	23,562	Maine	139,900	52,537	111,862	82,431
California	23,366	22,401	19,674	16,593	Oregon	28,396	25,940	77,482	88,501
Oregon	8,352	13,167	17,690	26,819	North Dakota	38,283	21,317	71,170	63,618
Minnesota	10,917	12,645	17,163	18,092	Minnesota	39,300	19,428	58,965	52,468
Wisconsin	10,819	11,126	13,788	17,424	New York	49,716	35,933	58,054	52,233
New York	15,297	15,422	13,470	12,147	Wisconsin	39,488	28,038	55,115	76,665
Colorado	8,119	10,071	9,864	13,371	Florida	18,203	19,299	42,422	33,857

SOURCE: Census of Agriculture.

Table 2.--Potatoes--Production and value by seasons, averages 1965-69, 1970-74, and 1975-80

Year	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Total	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Total
	1,000 cwt					1,000 dollars				
Average 65-69	4,270	27,853	29,517	240,779	302,419	15,256	83,828	76,274	479,784	655,142
Average 70-74	2,957	23,376	24,915	265,515	316,762	15,177	101,111	99,135	792,737	1,008,161
1975	2,887	19,904	20,773	278,414	321,978	15,418	122,078	117,843	1,187,402	1,442,741
1976	2,984	24,723	22,171	307,788	357,666	25,819	131,072	96,530	1,029,100	1,282,521
1977	2,660	22,867	21,839	307,968	355,334	22,977	142,555	104,172	985,343	1,255,047
1978	2,621	17,896	20,941	324,856	366,314	20,485	126,500	124,468	953,025	1,224,478
1979	2,383	21,348	21,847	296,919	342,497	19,138	96,935	94,494	961,556	1,172,123
1980	2,363	17,067	16,999	266,428	302,857	22,153	110,260	151,718	1,694,825	1,978,956

SOURCE: Crop Reporting Board.

Table 3.--Potatoes: Fall production and value; selected States, total for Eastern, Midwest and Western States and United States average 1965-69, 1970-74 and 1975-80

Year	Eastern States 1/			Midwest States 2/		Western States 3/			United States
	Maine	New York	Total	Red River Valley	Total	Idaho	Washington	Total	
	1,000 cwt								
Average 65-69	36,543	17,873	66,217	27,457	54,220	65,032	23,195	120,343	240,779
Average 70-74	34,370	13,696	58,018	33,001	59,456	77,881	34,297	148,041	265,515
1975	26,840	12,178	48,522	27,290	54,718	78,475	48,300	175,174	278,414
1976	27,440	13,510	50,815	28,275	57,998	88,445	55,800	198,975	307,788
1977	28,320	12,538	49,940	35,360	68,572	88,200	50,600	189,456	307,968
1978	25,960	12,675	47,286	37,310	70,501	100,310	50,505	207,069	324,856
1979	27,685	12,894	48,695	31,160	62,326	85,050	48,450	185,898	296,919
1980	24,960	11,044	42,193	25,600	54,672	79,840	43,935	169,563	266,428
1981 Ind.	26,000	12,575	45,870	33,070	63,197	80,040	50,760	177,984	287,051
	1,000 dollars								
Average 65-69	68,877	42,942	143,156	44,912	105,212	124,142	37,622	231,416	479,510
Average 70-74	117,073	50,539	204,378	87,017	182,413	213,337	82,383	405,947	792,737
1975	162,382	76,459	292,125	114,618	262,895	294,281	152,145	631,382	1,187,402
1976	135,828	65,458	251,102	95,338	215,855	260,942	139,500	562,143	1,029,100
1977	95,155	50,001	188,604	95,990	229,099	260,190	141,680	567,640	985,343
1978	100,206	57,073	201,146	101,831	236,021	225,698	123,737	515,858	953,025
1979	89,976	53,526	184,249	98,686	232,442	250,898	123,548	544,865	961,556
1980	180,960	97,628	326,217	183,792	432,048	451,096	193,314	936,560	1,694,825

1/ Includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and Pennsylvania.

2/ Includes Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and the Red River Valley (Minnesota and North Dakota).

3/ Includes Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, California, Washington, and Nevada.

SOURCE: Crop Reporting Board.

Table 4.--Potatoes: Utilization, 1965-1980

Item	Average 65-69	Average 70-74	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
1,000 cwt								
Total sales	269,080	284,280	293,241	324,660	317,497	325,573	306,367	273,106
Table stocks	131,907	118,945	114,160	123,091	117,171	112,096	114,957	97,226
Processed	110,303	141,301	154,106	174,747	171,902	174,274	166,104	152,883
Frozen french fries	36,668	58,965	70,641	79,654	79,949	79,539	74,320	67,222
Chips and shoestring	33,184	34,615	34,107	34,583	36,947	37,839	38,276	37,611
Dehydration	21,461	29,318	33,821	40,354	32,783	33,243	30,784	28,220
Other sales	26,870	24,036	24,975	26,822	28,424	39,203	25,306	22,997
Non-sales	33,339	32,482	28,737	33,006	37,837	40,741	36,130	29,751
Total production	302,419	316,762	321,978	357,666	355,334	366,314	342,497	302,857

SOURCE: Crop Reporting Board.

Table 5.--Potatoes--Per capita consumption, fresh weight equivalent, 1956-1979

Year	Total fresh and processed	Fresh	Processed				
			Total	Canned	Frozen	Chips and Shoestring	Dehydrated
			Lbs.				
Average 56-59	105.8	88.4	17.4	1.5	3.5	9.9	2.5
Average 60-64	109.5	80.1	29.4	1.6	9.7	13.1	5.0
Average 65-69	112.8	66.0	46.7	1.8	19.3	16.8	8.8
Average 70-74	117.3	54.6	62.8	2.2	31.0	16.9	12.7
1975	120.3	53.9	66.4	2.0	34.3	15.7	14.4
1976	114.4	50.1	64.3	1.9	36.4	16.0	10.0
1977	119.9	53.6	66.3	2.2	36.5	16.5	11.1
1978	119.0	49.7	69.3	2.1	38.8	17.1	11.3
1979	115.6	51.5	64.1	2.1	35.4	17.1	9.5
1980	116.2	54.2	62.0	2.1	33.8	16.8	9.3

SOURCE: Economic Research Service.

Table 6.--Distribution of Maine-New York, Red River Valley and Washington-Idaho potato unloads in the United States, 1965 and 1980

Area	Maine and New York		Red River Valley		Washington and Idaho		United States Total	
	1965	1980	1965	1980	1965	1980	1965	1980
	Percent							
East								
Total	74	86	2	4	20	22	33	24
New York	33	29	1/	1	10	12	13	9
Boston	16	17	1/	1/	2	2	5	4
Philadelphia	7	11	1/	1/	4	3	5	3
Other	18	28	1	2	4	5	10	8
Midwest								
Total	12	6	78	68	29	29	29	30
Chicago	2	1/	25	9	10	5	7	6
Detroit	3	--	1	4	3	4	5	4
Minneapolis	1/	--	21	29	2	3	3	4
Other	7	6	31	27	13	17	14	16
South								
Total	14	8	18	27	18	20	17	23
Atlanta	3	3	1	7	2	3	3	4
Dallas	1/	--	4	3	3	3	3	5
Houston	1/	--	2	2	2	3	2	3
Other	10	5	11	15	11	11	9	11
West								
Total	1/	1/	2	1	33	29	21	23
Los Angeles	1/	1/	1/	1/	13	7	10	9
San Francisco	1/	1/	1/	--	4	3	4	5
Seattle	1/	1/	1/	--	8	10	2	3
Other	1/	1/	1/	1	8	8	5	6

1/ Less than .05 percent.

SOURCE: AMS unloads.

Table 7.--Potato distribution by mode of transportation, rail and truck, Maine-New York, Washington-Idaho, Red River Valley, and total United States, 1965 and 1980

Area	Maine and New York		Red River Valley		Washington and Idaho		United States Total	
	1965	1980	1965	1980	1965	1980	1965	1980
	Percent							
Total								
Truck	64	100	33	90	21	58	58	82
Rail	36	--	67	10	79	42	42	18
East								
Truck	63	100	2	86	5	14	57	66
Rail	37	--	98	14	95	86	43	34
Midwest								
Truck	36	100	33	91	4	57	41	79
Rail	64	--	67	9	96	43	58	21
South								
Truck	95	100	35	87	8	48	66	83
Rail	5	--	65	13	92	52	34	17
West								
Truck	2	--	68	100	52	100	78	100
Rail	98	--	32	--	48	--	22	--

SOURCE: AMS unloads.

Table 8.--New York City unloads by origins of production, 1965 and 1980

Origin	1965	1980
	Percent	
Maine	34	17
New York	30	21
Idaho	7	32
Washington	4	4
Red River Valley	<u>1</u> / ¹	1
Other	25	25
Total	100	100

1/ Less than .05 percent.

SOURCE: AMS unloads.

Table 9.--Eastern Round White Potatoes: Seasonal average price spreads, and grower and packer returns, sold in New York City, 1964/65-1979/80 ^{1/}

Season	Retail price per pound	Retail value per cwt ^{2/}	Wholesale price per cwt ^{3/}	Shipping point price ^{4/} (grower and packer returns)		Shipping point-wholesale spread ^{5/}		Wholesale-retail spread ^{6/}	
				Per cwt	Percentage of retail value	Per cwt	Percentage of retail value	Per cwt	Percentage of retail value
	Cents	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
1964/65	9.1	8.74	4.65	3.48	40	1.17	13	4.09	47
1965/66	7.1	6.82	3.32	2.50	37	.82	12	3.50	51
1966/67	8.0	7.68	3.48	2.97	38	.51	7	4.20	55
1967/68	7.4	7.10	2.56	2.12	30	.44	6	4.54	64
1968/69	8.1	7.78	3.00	2.52	32	.48	6	4.78	62
1969/70	8.7	8.35	3.36	2.74	33	.62	7	4.99	60
1970/71	9.2	8.83	3.37	2.77	31	.60	7	5.46	62
1971/72	9.5	9.12	3.46	2.74	30	.72	8	5.66	62
1972/73	11.5	11.04	5.41	4.65	42	.76	7	5.63	51
1973/74	17.3	16.61	9.16	7.50	45	1.66	10	7.45	45
1974/75	12.6	12.10	4.57	3.50	29	1.07	9	7.53	62
1975/76	16.3	15.65	7.83	5.99	38	1.84	12	7.82	50
1976/77	15.7	15.07	6.23	4.31	28	1.92	13	8.84	59
1977/78	14.2	13.61	5.24	4.13	30	1.11	8	8.37	62
1978/79	16.0	15.40	5.58	4.41	28	1.17	8	9.82	64
1979/80	15.9	15.28	6.35	3.87	25	2.48	16	8.93	58
1980/81	27.6	26.50	13.34	5.56	21	7.78	29	13.16	50

^{1/} 8-month weighted average (Sept.-Apr.) U.S. No. 1. ^{2/} Returns to retailer for salable potatoes (4-percent allowance for loss incurred during marketing process). ^{3/} Origin same as shipping point. ^{4/} New York and Maine. ^{5/} Wholesale price minus shipping point price. Payment for interstate transportation and primary wholesaling (assembly and warehousing). ^{6/} Retail value minus wholesale price. Payment for secondary wholesaling and retailing.

Table 10.--Western Russet Potatoes: Average prices, spreads, and grower and packer returns, sold in New York City, 1964/65-1979/80 ^{1/}

Season	Retail price per pound	Retail value per cwt ^{2/}	Wholesale price per cwt ^{3/}	Shipping point price ^{4/} (grower and packer returns)		Shipping point-wholesale spread ^{5/}		Wholesale-retail spread ^{6/}	
				Per cwt	Percentage of retail value	Per cwt	Percentage of retail value	Per cwt	Percentage of retail value
	Cents	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
1964/65	13.2	12.67	7.82	5.12	41	2.70	21	4.85	38
1965/66	11.5	11.04	5.33	2.94	26	2.39	22	5.71	52
1966/67	12.1	11.62	6.07	3.35	29	2.72	23	5.55	48
1967/68	11.8	11.33	5.27	2.65	23	2.62	23	6.06	54
1968/69	12.6	12.13	6.77	4.19	35	2.58	21	5.36	44
1969/70	13.7	13.15	6.62	3.71	28	2.91	22	6.53	50
1970/71	13.8	13.25	6.37	3.06	23	3.31	25	6.88	52
1971/72	14.0	13.44	6.63	3.18	24	3.45	26	6.81	50
1972/73	16.0	15.36	8.60	5.26	34	3.34	22	6.76	44
1973/74	21.6	20.74	12.30	8.86	43	3.44	16	8.44	41
1974/75	19.0	18.24	9.67	5.29	29	4.38	24	8.57	47
1975/76	22.4	21.50	12.98	7.23	33	5.75	27	8.52	40
1976/77	20.3	19.49	10.70	5.60	29	5.10	26	8.79	45
1977/78	20.8	19.97	12.02	5.45	27	6.57	33	7.95	40
1978/79	22.9	21.98	12.13	5.14	23	6.99	32	9.85	45
1979/80	22.8	21.88	12.57	5.94	27	6.63	30	9.31	43
1980/81	33.5	32.14	18.03	11.83	37	6.20	19	14.11	44

^{1/} 8-month weighted average (Sept.-Apr.) U.S. No. 1. ^{2/} Returns to retailer for salable potatoes (4-percent allowance for loss incurred during marketing process). ^{3/} Origin same as shipping point. ^{4/} Idaho and Washington. ^{5/} Wholesale price minus shipping point price. Payment for interstate transportation and primary wholesaling (assembly and warehousing). ^{6/} Retail value minus wholesale price. Payment for secondary wholesaling and retailing.



